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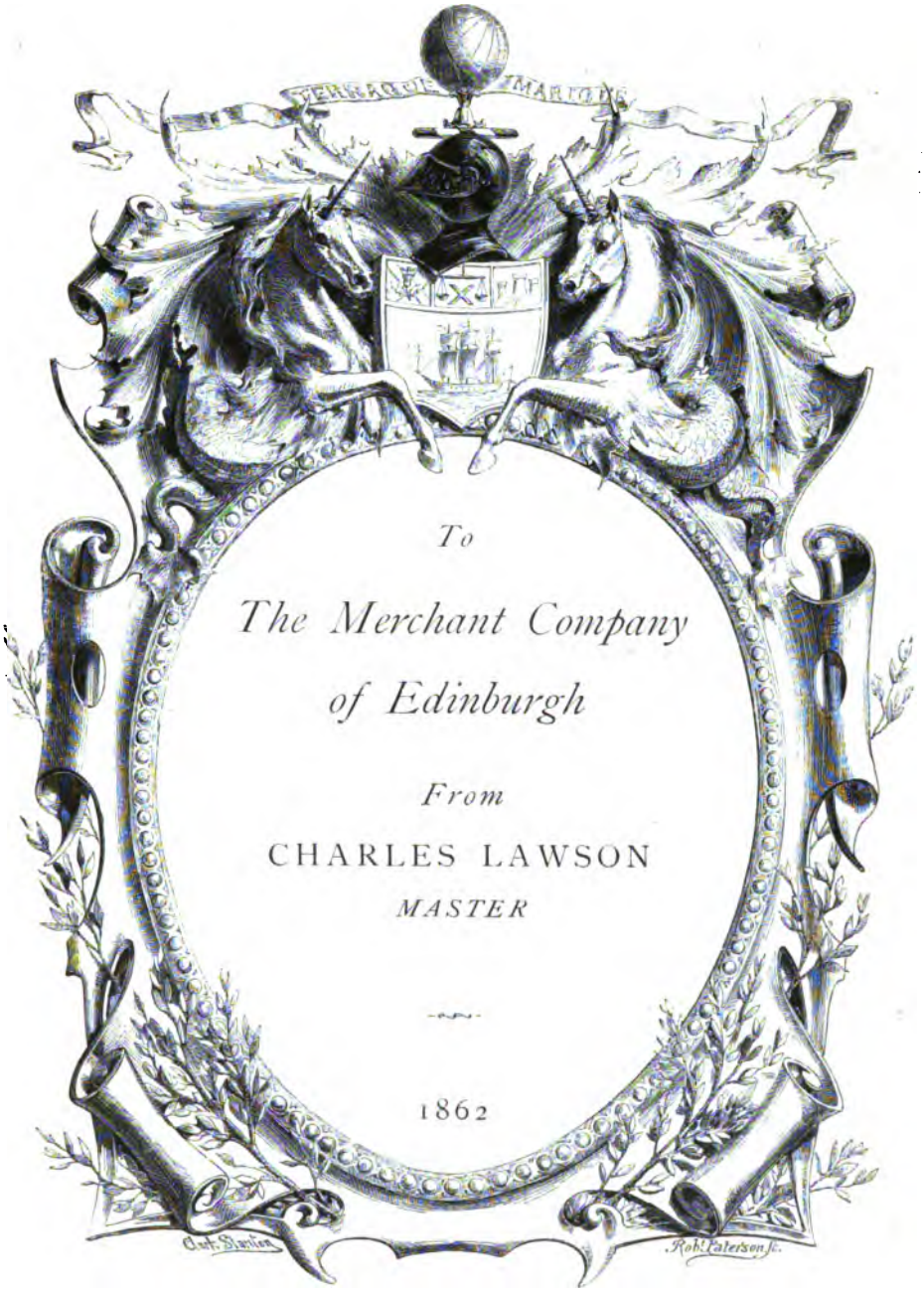
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With Mr Lawson's
Compts




To
The Merchant Company
of Edinburgh
From
CHARLES LAWSON
MASTER
1862
Chas. Barlow
Robt. Paterson Jr.

The Geographical Distribution of Material Wealth

BY

ALEXANDER KEITH JOHNSTON, F.R.S.E.

GEOGRAPHER TO THE QUEEN FOR SCOTLAND

II.

HISTORICAL NOTES REGARDING THE

MERCHANT COMPANY OF EDINBURGH

AND THE WIDOWS' SCHEME AND HOSPITALS

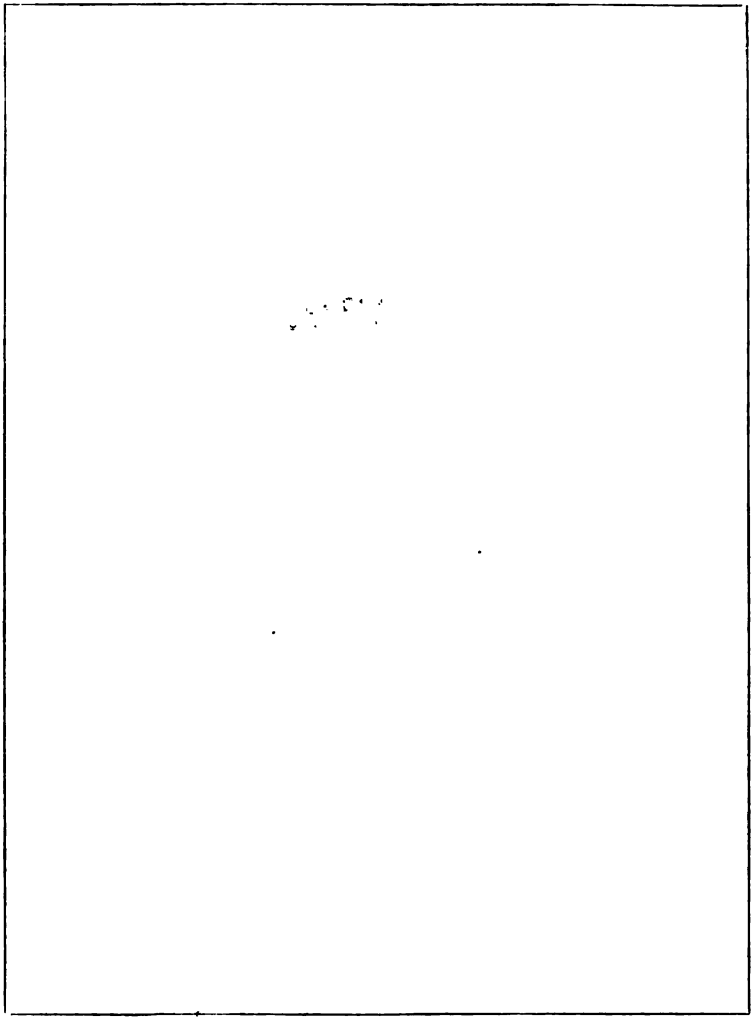
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EDINBURGH

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TO THE MEMBERS OF

THE MERCHANT COMPANY.

ON *retiring from the Office of* MASTER *of the* MERCHANT COMPANY, *which I have twice held with so much pleasure to myself, and in thanking you for the uniform kindness and support which I have received at your hands, I take this opportunity of offering for your acceptance the present*

189251

present Volume, containing (1) *the valuable* Lecture, *delivered by my friend Mr Keith Johnston, at the Conversazione, which you did me the honour to attend in April last; and* (2) *some* Historical Notes *as to the rise, progress, and present position of the Merchant Company.*

Desirous of presenting the Lecture *in as attractive a form as the limited resources of a Private Printing Press would admit of, I have called in the aid of our talented young townsman Mr Clark Stanton, to illustrate the different headings.*

Although the Company, to which we have the privilege to belong, is entitled to the term antient as well as honourable, no printed Account is extant, which can convey to our younger

younger Members any idea of the very important position it has occupied from its earliest days, nor of the part it has taken, from time to time, in all the leading questions which have engaged the attention of the mercantile community.

This I considered to be a great desideratum; and on mentioning it to Mr A. K. Mackie, the Assistant of our excellent Clerk, he at once offered to prepare some Notes on the subject of the Company's early history, to accompany Mr Keith Johnston's Lecture; *and to him, therefore, the Members are indebted for the interesting* Historical Notes, *which form the Second Part of this Volume.*

In the sincere hope and assurance that the Merchant Company will go on prospering as it has

has hitherto done, and that the noble Hospitals under its charge may continue to flourish, I subscribe myself, in all truth and sincerity,

Your very faithful Servant,

CHARLES LAWSON,
Master.

Borthwick Hall, 1st Sept. 1862.

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FROM THE DESIGNS OF CLARK STANTON.

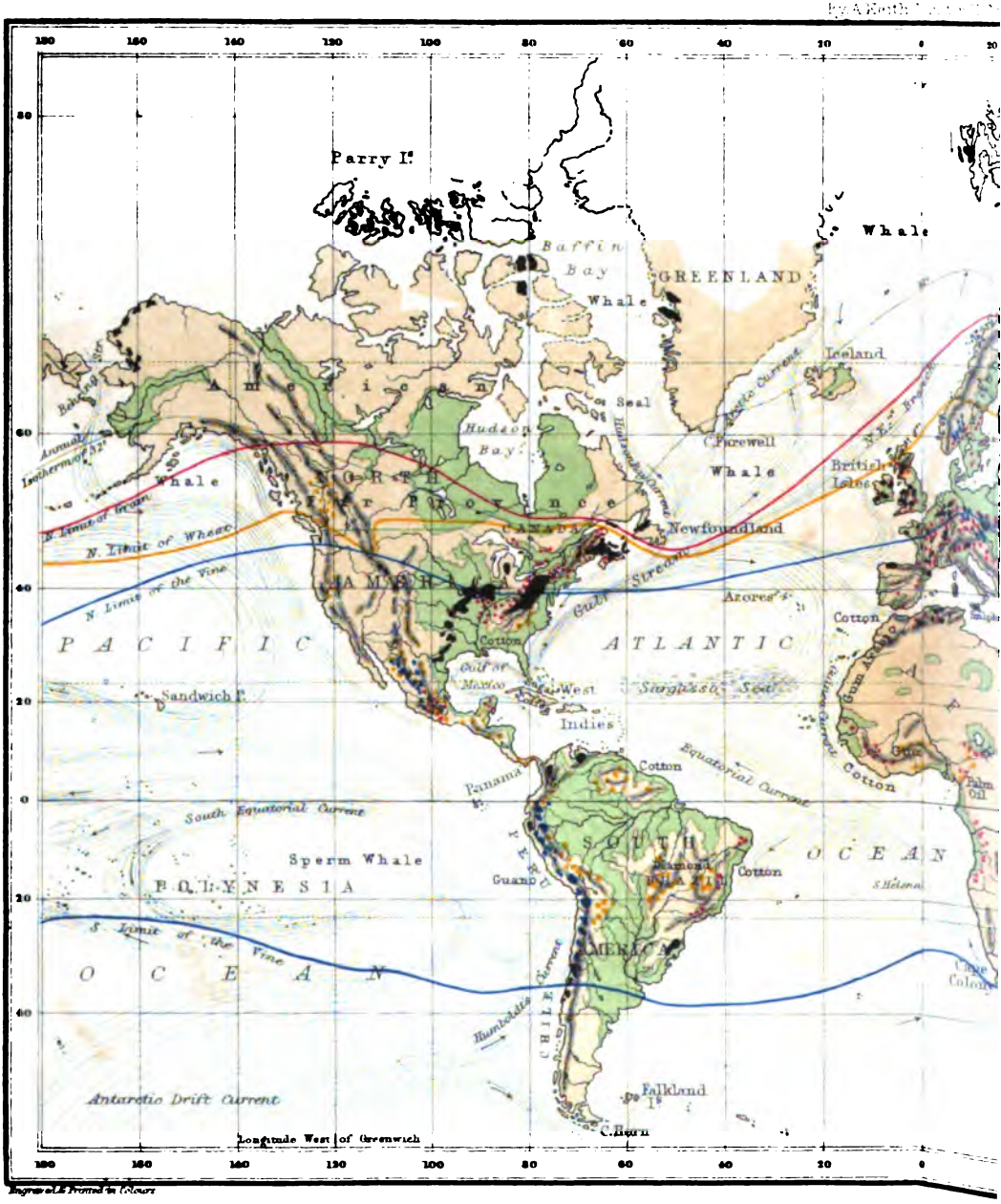
Presentation Plate ----------	Engraved by	R. Paterson
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The Animal Kingdom ------	,,	J. Borders
The Curiosities of Commerce--	,,	R. Paterson
Emblematic Heading—the Stock of Broom and Insignia----	,,	R. Paterson

MAP.

PHYSICAL AND COMMERCIAL CHART OF THE WORLD.

By Alexander Keith Johnston, F.R.S.E.

PHYSICAL & COMMERCIAL CH



Engraved & Printed in Colours

CHART OF THE WORLD



by W. & A. K. Johnston, Edinburgh

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



WHEN my esteemed friend, the MASTER, invited me to read an Address to the Members of the Antient Company of Merchants, my first idea, on thinking over a subject, was, that we might spend an agreeable hour together in performing an imaginary tour round the world, calling in at those maritime seats of trade, the names of which are more familiar in our tables of imports and exports;

exports; and making an occasional journey into the interior of countries by means of navigable rivers, or by caravan routes in the eastern, and railways in the western hemisphere.

Introduction

Beginning at the cradle of navigation, and the birth-place of all that is great in the early history of human progress, we might have crept cautiously along the shores of the Levant, or, sailing from Tyre, the antient "Queen of the Ocean," with Phœnicians for our pilots, and the stars for our guides, we might have ventured out beyond the Pillars of Hercules, and, steering a dubious course to the north-west, have visited the semi-barbarous inhabitants of a misty and half mythic island, called Britain, to barter with them for the tin of Cassiterides, the only exportable article their poor country afforded.

Then, turning in another direction, we might have taken passage on board of one of King Solomon's

Solomon's ships of Tarshish, which left the port of Eziongeber once in three years, and, aided by the south-west monsoon, have rowed eastward across the Arabian Sea to the far distant Land of Ophir; ruminating as we went on the revolutions of Empires, which, in the course of ages, have placed so large a portion of that once renowned golden region under the sceptre of our Sovereign Lady Victoria, the beloved and revered Queen of England, and Empress of India.* On our return voyage, bringing gold, silver, and ivory, we might have amused ourselves with the "apes and peacocks" which formed important items in the royal traders' bill of lading. Once more on *terra firma*, and mounting our camels, we might

Ophir

* The Ophir of Scripture was probably the western coast of India; and the name may have extended to the Malay Peninsula, where the word 'Ophir' means a gold mine. Ceylon is believed to be the Tarshish of Solomon.

might have joined company with the Ishmaelite caravan, which, laden with spices and balm from Gilead, carried Joseph into Egypt, to learn from him there a lesson on the management of our surplus stores in times of scarcity.

Early Voyagers

With Bartolomeo Diaz, we might have doubled the "stormy cape," afterwards the better omened Cape of Good Hope, and predicted, in consequence, the ruin of the lucrative trade from the east by Aden and the Red Sea. By and bye, we might have met with Christopher Columbus, and, entering into his enlightened views, would have embarked in one of his caravels at the port of Palos, in Andalucia. We would have shared the terror of his companions as they ploughed through the Sargasso Sea, a meadow in mid-ocean; but, sustained by the unwavering faith of the great commander, we would have glided gently across what he called the Ladies' Gulf (*il golfo de las damas*), till, in

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Columbus

in the prophetic words of his dream, we "unbarred the gates of ocean;" and, making our landfall at Watling Island, would have taken part in the discovery of a new world. We would have knelt with Nunez de Balbao, in silent admiration, as from the summit of the Isthmus of Panama he gazed for the first time on the great Southern Ocean; and, plunging his drawn sword into its waters, took possession, in the name of Spain, of all the lands on its borders. With the intrepid Magellan, we might have passed through the strait that bears his name into the same vast ocean which he found and called the Pacific, and, returning by the Philippines and the Cape, would have witnessed the first circumnavigation of the globe, by which its spherical form was satisfactorily demonstrated. Then, tracing out the blood-stained career of Pizzaro, and noting the rapidly increasing power and growing avarice

Raleigh and Drake

avarice of the Spaniards, their cruel treatment of the noble Montezuma and the peaceful Incas, we would have foreseen the decadence which was sure to follow the fortunes of that State which thus raised itself on the ruin of others. Or, coming nearer home, we might have shared in the enthusiasm of the brave spirits of Elizabeth's time, accompanying Raleigh to the land of the far west, which he named after his virgin queen: sympathising with him on the failure of his attempt to discover the often sought, but ever evanescent El Dorado; helping Drake to lighten the Spanish galleons of their ill-gotten plate and treasure from the port of Acapulco, or witnessing the destruction of an entire fleet in the Bay of Cadiz, when he and Raleigh returned the compliment intended for us by Philip and his Invincible Armada! Thus floating down the stream of time, we would have seen navigation

gation become a great science, earnestly studied by every enlightened people; travelling, even in the desert, a pastime participated in by numbers of the gentler sex; and commerce gradually developed into a mighty power, engaging the activities of millions, and constantly tending to unite, in one common brotherhood, the scattered family of man. But a little reflection convinced me that this is too large a theme; that long before we could have completed our circuit, your patience and my time would, alike, have been exhausted; and second thoughts suggested a more rapid bird's-eye view of the world, looking chiefly at the distribution of material wealth over its surface, in its bearings on commerce and navigation. To this, therefore, I now beg to direct your attention.

Material wealth

The term *material wealth*, as here employed, is meant to embrace all those substances of the natural

Distribution of wealth

natural kingdoms which, whether as raw materials for our manufactures, as necessaries and luxuries for our tables, or ornaments for our toilets, are the objects of commercial enterprise. These substances are so distributed throughout the vast storehouse of nature, that no country, however favoured as to climate and soil, is so rich that it can lay claim to a monopoly; and none, however apparently barren, is so poor that it cannot add something to the general store. If China furnishes our teas and the Moluccas our spices, Iceland contributes its wool, and Siberia its furs. This beneficent arrangement, while it evinces forethought and design on the part of the Great Architect, affords a proof that the earth was created for the occupation of man as a social being, depending for his happiness and his progress on his fellow men. But for this disposition, which sent us to seek for the oil that fed our domestic lamp

lamp to seas within the arctic circle, and scattered gold over the surface of Australian wilds, the Greenlander might have been left to pine alone within his ice-girt shores, and the savage of the southern continent might have disappeared from the face of the globe before the lineaments of his peculiar physiognomy had been photographed for the benefit of future ethnologists. For an explanation of the manner of this distribution, in so far as it can be explained by natural causes, we must look to the facts and deductions of Physical Geography; that interesting branch of knowledge, a compound of many of the sciences, which, freed from the trammels of the old cosmography and the more modern routine of analysis, regards our planet not merely as the theatre of man's exploits—the scene of his ambition and his crimes, with boundaries traced in blood—but as the green earth, fresh from the hands of its Maker,

Physical Geography

Maker, whose boundaries are the engirdling waters and the everlasting hills.

Physical Geography teaches that there is a majestic harmony in the distribution of the grand masses which form the solid portions of the earth's crust; that these masses are simple in their original types, and that these types have a constant tendency to repeat themselves, as observed in the tapering of all the great peninsulas towards the south. But the most prominent characteristic features of the present condition of

Mountains

our planet are the great mountain chains, which, as apparent on the map, form two principal classes: those in the Old World, Asia, with its peninsular prolongation Europe, and the Barbary States; which extend, with few exceptions, in the direction of the parallels, or from west to east; and those of the New World, America, which run on the line of the meridians, or from south to north. The map

map is so coloured as to convey a general idea of the structure of the globe; the deep green colour is meant to indicate plains and low lands, extending from the level of the sea to 300 or 400 feet above that level; and the pale green, up to 500 or 600 feet. The pale brown marks out rising grounds, table-lands, and mountain slopes, up to about 1000 feet; and the dark brown and black, all above this to 29,000 feet, the culminating point of the whole. The portions of the mountains which, in nature, are covered with perpetual snow, are marked white on the dark ground; these snow-white patches indicate the highest points of a system, the sites of true glaciers and the sources of great rivers.* Central Asia is traversed by the highest mountains on the globe, and these support vast table-lands rising

Map explained

* These explanations refer to the large Physico-Commercial Map, now in the Industrial Museum of Scotland. The scale of the sketch map attached is too small to shew particular features.

Mountains and Plains

rising to an elevation of 15,000 feet above the sea. In America, the high-lands form a narrow band extending along its western shores, while the central and eastern portions, almost from the north to the south pole, are occupied by plains, interrupted only by comparatively low hills.

There is a remarkable connexion between the configuration of a continent and the civilization of its tribes and peoples. Mountain chains extending along the parallels of latitude give rise to greater differences between nations than those which stretch along the meridians of longitude; a circumstance which also affects the fauna and flora of a region. Hence, almost all mixtures of nations and languages have occurred along meridional lines of mountains, and the course of war and conquest have been modified by the same cause. Arnold says truly, that "the whole character of a

"nation

Arnold quoted

" nation may be influenced by its geology and " physical geography." Writing twenty years since, he asks, " What is it that threatens the " permanence of the American Confederacy, " but the physiological fact, that the soil and " climate of the southern States render them " eminently agricultural; while those of the " northern States, combined with their geo- " graphical advantages as to seaports, dispose " them, no less naturally, to be manufacturing " and commercial."

Had he been writing now, when the Confederacy is no longer permanent, he would doubtless have recognised the difficulty that presents itself to the effectual separation of a kindred people, occupying together a vast central valley, 1500 miles in length, in the absence of any great natural barrier. Mountain summits attract vapours, which, in condensing, form mists or clouds, and frequently tempests; they

Ocean Currents

they thus contribute to the general humidity of a country and to the exhibition of important meteorological and physiological appearances. The ocean is remarkable for equalizing temperature, reducing the heat and tempering the cold of countries in its vicinity; its Currents carrying warm or tepid water from the equatorial regions to the frigid north, which, in return, sends ice-cold streams towards the south. The Warm Currents, and their directions, are indicated by *red*, and the Cold by *blue* arrows on the map.

These wonderful marine rivers originate in the Antarctic Drift Current, which, flowing north and east, separates on approaching the coast of South America: one branch turning eastward round Cape Horn to the Falklands, and another northward along the coasts of Chili and Peru, to lat. 20°, where it is deflected westward to form the Equatorial Drift, which crosses

Ocean Currents

crosses the Pacific with a breadth of 50°. At the Philippines it is partly turned to the north, as the Japan Current, and partly passes through the Moluccas to the Indian Ocean, crossing which it enters the Channel of Mozambique, and forms the Agulhas Current, which, sweeping round the Cape of Good Hope, runs north along the west coast of Africa, to originate the Equatorial Current. Again flowing westward, the moving mass of water splits on the north-eastern shoulder of South America, the smaller portion turning southward, as the Brazil Current, and the larger running west-north-west, through the Caribbean Sea, to form the Florida Gulf Stream. From the Gulf of Mexico the pent-up water escapes through the Strait of Florida, between Cuba and the Bahama Banks, and flows northward, off the shores of the American States, as a sharply defined stream, different in colour, temperature,

Gulf Stream

temperature, and saltness, from the ocean which forms its banks. Trending eastward, it spreads out and decreases in velocity and in heat as it approaches the Azores, round which it sweeps to rejoin the Equatorial Current, inclosing the eddy called the Sargasso Sea, in which it deposits vast quantities of duck weed. The north-easterly branch extends to the coasts of Ireland, Scotland, Iceland, Norway, and Spitzbergen, meeting in its course the antagonistic Cold Current from the Arctic regions. The Warm Currents uniformly flow from the equatorial towards the Polar regions, and the Cold Currents in an opposite direction. The temperature of Humboldt's Current is 12° or 14° below that of the Pacific, and the Arctic Current passes Iceland with a temperature 17° or 18° below that of the tepid waters in its vicinity. The Gulf Stream has, in some places, a temperature of 20° or 30° above the Atlantic, and

and this genial warmth, borne to our shores by the prevailing south-westerly winds, keeps our ports open at all seasons; while those on the western continent, in the same latitude, are ice-bound during the greater part of the year. This is made apparent by the looping of the yearly and monthly isothermals far to the north in this region. The velocity of the Ocean Currents varies from two to eighty miles in twenty-four hours.

Effects of the Gulf Stream

The


The Mineral Kingdom.
Coal, Iron, Copper-- Gold, Silver, Platina—Precious Stones or Gems.
ALTHOUGH Minerals are not subject to laws of distribution like Plants and Animals, yet each metalliferous deposit has its distinctive position among the series of rocks.
Tin

Distribution of Metals

Tin abounds most in granite, Gold in the palæozoic rocks, Copper in slate formations, Silver in the primary and transition rocks, Lead in the carboniferous limestone, and Iron in the coal and oolitic strata.

History of Coal

Coal, though of organic origin, is included among minerals; and as the chief, now, indeed, almost the only source of mechanical power, of heat and of light, it would be difficult to overestimate its importance. It is supposed to have been known to the antient Britons, from the circumstance of a flint axe having been found in a bed of Coal in Monmouthshire. There is evidence to indicate its employment as fuel by the Romans while in England; and it was an article of household use in the year A.D. 852.

In 1259, King Henry III. granted to the "good men of Newcastle" the privilege of digging Coal, and this is probably the first notice of

of its actual working. A similar privilege was granted for Fife, to the Abbey of Dunfermline, in 1291. In 1306, during the reign of Edward I., the people of London protested against the introduction of Coal into the city, on the plea, that the smoke and smell arising from its combustion were prejudicial to health; but the protest was ineffectual, since it came into general use a few years after, in the reign of Charles I. (1625). At the beginning of the eighteenth century, the consumption of Coal was greatly increased by the manufacture of glass at Newcastle and stoneware in Staffordshire; but its most wonderful application was in the distillation of gas for domestic use, producing a light so brilliant and so pure that, compared to earlier means of illumination, it may be said, in the darkest night "almost to "anticipate the dawn."

Coal in London

Coal Gas

The distillation of Coal was first tried in 1665,

1665, by James Clayton, an English physician. In 1798, the experiment was renewed by an engineer of the name of Murdoch, at Soho, near Birmingham; where, for the first time, Coal-gas was used in illumination at the establishment of James Watt, on occasion of the peace of Amiens, in 1802. Soon after this, a German, named Winsor, obtained from George III. an exclusive privilege to light London with gas: a company was formed by Act of Parliament, and in 1823, gas illumination became general throughout Great Britain. Since then, the use of Coal in steam power, in manufactures, and in locomotive engines, has crowned the triumphs of this substance, composed of the exuberant vegetation of a former period,* as the most powerful

Origin of Gas

* Robert Stephenson says, "the heat of burning Coal is but the "liberation of those rays of the sun which have been locked up in the "dark

powerful and universal agent in modern civilization.*

Supply of Coal in Britain

As shewn by the signs on the map, Coal is very widely distributed; the total quantity annually mined over the globe, is estimated at 128 millions of tons, and of this Great Britain and Ireland produce more than one-half. It is calculated that there are in Great Britain 5431 square miles stored with Coal to a depth of 4000 feet, equal to 79,843 millions of tons; an amount sufficient to sustain the present supply for upwards of

"dark chambers of the rocks since the time that our great luminary shone "down on the primeval forest."

* Such is the dynamic value of Coal, that, according to Professor Rogers, in his elaborate treatise on *The Geology of Pennsylvania*, a pound weight of it is equal to a day's wages; and, estimating a lifetime of hard work at 20 years, giving 300 working days to a year, we have for a man's total dynamic efforts, 6000 days. In Coal this lifetime of muscular exertion is represented by the amazingly small amount of three tons.

of 1000 years.* But if, as our mining-engineers assure us, for every additional birth in our rapidly increasing population an additional ton of Coal is required, it is evident that this rate of consumption must soon be greatly exceeded: it is, however, consoling to know, that the American Coal-bearing tracts are upwards of *seventy* times the area of our own.†

The latest and most interesting of the substances derived from Coal are the new and brilliant colours obtained from *aniline*, a product of coal-tar. These dyes are the fashionable and

Coal tar Dyes

* *The Coal Fields of Great Britain*, by Edw. Hull, B.A., London, 1861.—"In Britain alone," says Mr Hull, "Coal propels 5200 locomotive engines with their trains over 9500 miles of railway. It heats 607 iron-furnaces, besides those for smelting ores. It sets in motion the machinery of 3000 factories, 2500 steam vessels and smaller craft, and lights, I dare not say how many, forges, fires, stoves, and ovens."

† The great Coal-bed of Pictou, Nova Scotia, is 34 feet in vertical thickness.

Refuse of Coal

and well-known Mauve, Violine, Roseine, Magenta, Solferino, and Azuline. Thus, the very refuse of Coal, pitch, and the most offensive oils, are, by the labours of the chemist, transmuted into objects which minister to the most refined taste.

IRON, as shewn by the red spots on the map, has, in Central Europe and North America generally, the same geographical distribution as coal. There are colossal Iron hills near Tornea in Lapland, and in the Ural Mountains, where Blagod Mountain, 1500 feet high, is one mass of magnetic Iron. Iron mines are worked in the Zillerthal Tyrol, Piedmont, Elba, Brazil, and Chili: the richest, commercially, are those of Great Britain, Axendal in Norway, Dannemora and Taberg, in Swedish Lapland. Great Britain produces more of this metal than all other countries together, because the same soil

soil which contains coal, contains also Iron ore, lime, and clay.*

It was long since said, that the possession of Iron is the essential condition of civilization; and this is now the case more than ever, since to it we owe the steam-engine, the railway, electric telegraphs, tubular bridges, and mailed war ships. The Germans have a proverb, "gold to amuse, iron to use;" and Locke, in his Essay on the Human Understanding, observes, that "if the use of Iron were lost among "us, we should, in a few ages, be reduced to the "wants and ignorance of the antient savage "Americans." Iron appears to have been little used

Iron as a civilizer

* In 1857, there were in Britain 828 furnaces, producing 3,659,447 tons of pig Iron, the value of which was upwards of £14,000,000 sterling. The following shews the estimated quantity, in tons, of Iron produced in the different quarters of the globe. Europe, 88,000,000; Asia, 8,480,000; America, 11,625,000; Africa, 80,000; Australia, 1000. Produce of the whole earth, in round numbers, 108,000,000 tons.

used in Greece till after the Trojan war; it was made by the Romans in the forest of Dean, Gloucestershire; and in 1619, Lord Dudley obtained a patent for smelting it with pit coal instead of timber; but it received its greatest impulse from the introduction of the "hot blast" in 1828; and since then, every step in the improvement of its manufacture has been a signal for increasing progress in many of the more important arts.

The Hot Blast

COPPER is said to derive its name from the island of Cyprus, which was formerly rich in this metal. It was known in the earliest times, when it was used in making domestic utensils, before the means of working iron was discovered. The warriors of Troy had brazen weapons, and ploughshares were first made of Copper, as well as the axe heads of the antient Siberians. It occurs both pure and

Early use of Copper

and in many combinations, in rocks of nearly every formation.

Copper in Britain, &c.

In Britain, the principal Copper mines are those of Cornwall, Devon, Wales, and Ireland; those of Scotland are nearly abandoned. The entire produce of the United Kingdom, in 1857, was 218,689 tons of ore, value £1,560,922 sterling.

After the English, the most important Copper mines, in a commercial point of view, are those of Chili, Cuba, Spain, and South Australia, where the Burra Burra mines, north of Adelaide, in 1850, yielded 18,692 tons. Copper ores abound in Russia, Japan, and South America. The famous mines of Dalecarlia, in Sweden, are believed to have been worked for more than a thousand years; and there Copper pyrites is found in large masses in the micaceous schists. One block was found on Lake Superior which weighed twenty-six, and another

another in South Australia, twenty-four tons. The Copper of Japan is said to be the purest, and its mines among the richest in the world.

The Precious Metals

GOLD, SILVER, and PLATINA, are, by common consent, included in the class of Precious Metals. These, especially Gold and Platina, are, on account of their resistance to foreign influences, generally found in a pure state in nature; and their lustre and beauty remaining thus unaltered by time or exposure, secures for them their pre-eminence in the arts.

Antient esteem for Gold

Gold was known in the earliest times: Abraham is described as being "rich in silver and "gold." This metal was held in the greatest estimation by the Greeks and Romans. The apples of the garden of the Hesperides were of gold, so also were the drinking cups from which the antient Greeks poured libations to their deities.

Ductility is one of the great characteristics of

of the Precious Metals. It is a proverbial saying on some parts of the Continent, that "a "horse and his rider can be gilded with a ducat," but its extensibility is much greater than this, and is indeed almost indefinite. A grain of Gold, which is not so large as the head of a common pin, can be drawn out into 500 feet of wire, and Gold is beaten into leaves which are not more than 1-200,000th part of an inch in thickness. Gold may be said to be universally distributed: it occurs mostly in the palæozoic rocks, and everywhere shews a preference for mountain chains running north and south, as in the Urals, Mexico, the Andes of Peru, California, British Columbia, Australia, Borneo, and on the Malabar coast of India. In 1844, Sir R. I. Murchison was led, from a resemblance between the Blue Mountains of Australia and the Urals, to fortell the existence of Gold in its eastern Cordillera.

Ductility of Gold

Distribution of Gold

New Gold Fields

dillera. In 1851, extensive diggings were worked in New South Wales; since then, Gold has been discovered in wide-spread localities of the province Victoria. The Californian diggings were discovered in 1848, and in 1857 its returns were estimated at nearly £14,000,000 sterling.* But this was far exceeded by Australia, which, in 1852, yielded nearly £18,000,000,† an amount which might have given a semblance of reality to the dreams of the middle ages, and a warrant to the pretensions of the alchymist to turn the most ordinary stones into Gold. But having fulfilled the purpose of attracting a working population to

* Or £659,000 more than the produce of all North and South America (exclusive of California) in 1850, which was only £13,341,989.

† In 1852, the province of Victoria alone yielded Gold to the value of £14,866,799; in addition to which, in the same year, New South Wales returned an amount of £3,000,000, in all £17,866,799. Since then, however, the supply has greatly declined, and the latest returns (1859)

to an unpeopled country, the supply immediately began to decline, and is now little more than half of what it was in 1852. The golden, or gilded star, is again hovering over other regions which, in their turn, will be as quickly occupied.

Gold in Australia

In 1857, the province Nelson, New Zealand, had its turn, and for a time exported to the value of £50,000 a year. In 1861, Otago became the point of attraction, and is now rapidly filling its coffers. In the same year, 800 men were employed in the newly discovered diggings of Nova Scotia, while the Gold fields of British Columbia are so rapidly increasing in importance that the produce of the

Gold in New Zealand

(1859) shew, for New South Wales, £1,698,078, and for Victoria, £8,624,860, making in all, £10,322,938, or not much more than one-half the yield of 1852.

The total amount of Gold received from Australia since 1851, is 800 tons, equal to £104,000,000 sterling, which, it is said, would form an obelisk of solid gold, ten feet square at the base, and forty-two feet high.

Gold in British Colonies

the season 1861 is estimated at more than £1,000,000 sterling; and, as if all this were not enough for our share, Gold was found in the spring of this year, in workable quantity, on the coast of Malabar (the antient Ophir), in British India, and also in the river beds of Natal, in British Africa.

Silver is found mostly in undisturbed primitive rocks, occasionally pure, but generally in combination with lead ore; it has been known since the most remote antiquity, and, for its excellent qualities, was early chosen as a medium of monetary circulation. The richest Silver mines in the world are situated in the Cordilleras of Mexico and South America.* In Europe, the principal Silver mines are those of

* The most celebrated are, in Mexico those of Quanaxuato, Sombrerete, and Zacatecas; in Bolivia, those of Potosi, at an elevation of 15,200 feet; and in Peru, those of Pasco, which have been worked since the beginning of the seventeenth century.

of the Erzgebirge, the Hartz, Saxony, Hungary, and Transylvania, Norway, Sweden,* Spain, and Piedmont. Spain was extolled by the antients for its Silver mines, and the Guadalquivir was said to "spring from Silver roots." Asia possesses Silver mines, the value of which is little known. Russia derives a large amount of Silver from China and from the mines of Siberia; the auriferous sands of the Urals also contain this metal. A small but increasing quantity of Silver is procured from the lead mines in Great Britain, the amount for 1858 being £157,119. In 1850, the total produce of Gold and Silver from the mines of Europe, Africa, and Asia (exclusive of China and Japan), was nearly £7,000,000; while, at the same time, North and South America yielded £20,000,000.

Silver in Spain

British native Silver

Platina, a word adopted from the Spanish, meaning

* The Kongsberg Mines of Sweden alone yielded, in 1858, Silver to the value of £1,377,769.

meaning "small silver," is a white metal, but not bright like the former. It is the heaviest known substance, its specific gravity being to gold as 21 to 19, and it is wonderfully ductile and tenacious. For certain purposes in industry and the arts, especially in the laboratory, it is the only suitable metal.

Platina

Platina was introduced into Europe by Charles Wood, an English metallurgist, who published his observations in 1749. Previous to that time it was found in South America, chiefly in the auriferous sands of Peru, where for long it was thrown into the rivers as useless. It is found in sandy soils along with gold and the diamond, in Columbia, Mato-Grosso, and Minas-Geraes in Brazil, in Siberia and in the Ural Mountains, where it is got in grains and in pieces, occasionally some pounds in weight. It has recently been discovered in Borneo, and also in California, but in quantities too

too small to be of commercial importance. For ten years from 1824, it was in use for coin in Russia, but was withdrawn for want of sufficient supplies from the mines.

Precious Metals in Britain

The value of the Precious Metals in Great Britain, in the shape of plate, watches, jewels, &c., in 1858, is estimated by M'Culloch (allowing £4 sterling to each individual of the entire population), at £100,000,000 sterling.

The value in coin, for the same year, is assumed to be from £70,000,000 to £75,000,000 sterling. He further estimates that about £12,000,000 of the total supplies of the Precious Metals from the mines are annually disposed of in the arts, plate, jewellery, gilding, &c., in Europe, America, and Australia.

Gems

PRECIOUS STONES OR GEMS comprise those mineral substances which, from the beauty of their colours, their brilliancy, transparency, or hardness,

hardness, are eagerly sought after. The most valuable are found in the primitive rocks, and are more abundant in India, Ceylon, and Brazil, than in any other country. Pearls and Coral are ranked among Precious Stones, for, although furnished by the animal kingdom, their composition is essentially mineral.

Classification of Gems

M. Barbot* classes Gems in the following order: Diamond, Ruby, Sapphire, Opal, Pearl, Topaz (of the East), Emerald, Turquoise, Garnet (Syrian), Beryl, Amethyst, Hyacinthe Aqua-Marina, Coral, Tourmaline, Rock-Crystal. These stones have acquired, from emulation among the opulent, a fictitious value, unequalled by that of any other product however useful. This, which has been called " one of the most flagrant aberrations " of human vanity," has given birth, at all times

* Traité des Pierres Precieuses.

times, to a prodigious amount of labour, of commerce and navigation; and whatever may be its legitimacy in a political point of view, the trade in Gems is now more flourishing than ever. If commerce were to be restricted to what is barely necessary to our existence, its advocates would be deprived of one of the strongest arguments in its favour: it is the activity occasioned by the superfluities that constitutes the glory of commerce and the happiness of man. It is estimated that, in all the countries of the world, this branch of industry gives employment to more than 2,000,000 of people,* independent of the miners who discover the Gems and the agents who speculate on them.

Trade in Gems

Pearls are globular concretions found in the shells of certain fish, especially the mother-of-pearl

* M. Barbot.

pearl oyster, and one of the genus *Avicula*, which produces the true Oriental Pearl. Pearl fishery banks occur in the Old World, in the Red Sea, in the Persian Gulf, off the coast of Algiers, in the Gulf of Manaar (between India and Ceylon), and off the shores of Japan. In the New World, they occur in the Sea of California, the Gulf of Mexico, near Panama (Islas de los Perlas), West Indies (Margarita or Pearl Isle), the coasts of Peru and Chili, in Guiana, and also in the group of the Philippines and different portions of Oceania; but the principal fishing banks are in the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Manaar, which have been fished since the time of Pliny; and still, as in former times, the Pearls of Ceylon are held in the greatest esteem in Europe. The Pearl divers use a sinking stone, of 30 lbs. weight, and the usual depth they attain is from 9 to 13 fathoms; the longest time they can remain

Pearl Banks

Pearl Divers

remain under water is 57 seconds, none being able to complete a full minute. These "indu- "rated dew drops," as Pearls are termed in the figurative language of the Orientals, were first used in Asia, the classical land of luxury and ostentation; they are spoken of in the Book of Job and in the Proverbs. The Sanscrit, Persian, and Arabian poets make them the emblems of perfection and beauty; and in the Parable of our Lord, the merchant man sold all that he had in order that he might purchase "the Pearl of great price." The present Shah of Persia is said to possess a chaplet of Pearls, each the size of a nut; and one of his predecessors paid the traveller Tavernier, the sum of £110,000 for a single Pearl, which he had purchased at Catifa. Pearls were introduced into Europe at the time when taste developed itself with the rise of civilization among the Greeks and Romans, and they are still

Value of the Pearl

Revenue from Pearl Fisheries

still among the most esteemed of the Gems used in jewellery: their value depends on their size, form, and colour. So valuable is this branch of industry, that, at Bahrein alone, the annual amount produced by the Pearl fishery is reckoned at from £200,000 to £240,000; while that of the entire Persian Gulf is estimated at £360,000. In former times, the Pearl fishery of Columbia was of great value. It is said that upwards of 697 lbs. weight were exported thence to Seville in 1587; and Philip II. of Spain had one from Margarita, valued at 150,000 dollars. In 1825, two large joint-stock companies were formed for the fishery on these shores; but they were abandoned in the course of the following year. The collection of 408 Pearls, each weighing 16 grains, belonging to the court of France, is valued at 500,000 francs.

Coral has the appearance of a shrub without

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Coral

out leaves, and it was long believed to be the wood of a marine plant; if not a stone. It is in reality the shell or nest of a certain kind of polypus, and the portion formerly taken for the bark is the most recent and less consistent part, of no commercial value. The polypus, of which the Coral is at once the product and the support, is lodged in the numerous cells with which this outer crust is riddled. The true Coral is composed of a calcareous substance, disposed in concentric beds, close in the grain, very hard and easily polished; its value depends on its size and colour, and it varies in price from eight or ten guineas per ounce to a few shillings per pound weight.

The principal fishing banks are near Marseille, on the coasts of Corsica, Sardinia, and the Balearic Isles, near Tunis and Oran in the Mediterranean; in the Red sea; and the Persian Gulf.

There are several large establishments at Leghorn,

Leghorn, where 1000 females are employed in working Coral for ornaments.

The Diamond occupies the first rank among Precious Stones from the importance of the commerce to which it gives rise, and the esteem of all people in all ages. It has been known since the remotest times, and was an ornament in the breast-plate of the Jewish High-Priest; it is composed of pure carbon, and is the hardest body in nature.

Diamond in India

The first Diamonds were brought from India, where the districts of Sumbulpore, west-south-west of Calcutta; Golconda and Vizapur have furnished the finest in the world. There the quality of the gem is characterised by a classification bearing the names of the four Hindoo castes; the most valuable being called a Brahmin. In 1728, the Diamond was, by accident, discovered in Brazil, whence commerce has since chiefly derived its supplies; the best being from the

the Serro do Frio, north of Rio. Again, in 1845, another discovery was made at Paraguassu, 130 miles west of Bahia, of the richest mines known; and, in consequence, a district formerly almost a desert, soon attracted a population of 120,000 persons. Diamonds are found in company with the Topaz, Beryl, Gold, and Platina, in sand and alluvial deposits. Besides India and Brazil, the Diamond is found in Borneo, the Urals, Algeria, North Carolina, and Australia. The method of cutting the Diamond was discovered at Bruges in 1475; and this important branch of industry is now almost entirely localised in the city of Amsterdam, where it employs a great number of workers, the establishment of M. Coster alone keeping 200 grindstones constantly going. The most celebrated Diamonds are those of the Emperor of Russia, weighing 195 carats, and purchased, in

Diamond Cutting

Value of the Diamond

in 1772, for the sum of £90,000 and a life annuity of £4000. The Regent Diamond, belonging to the crown of France, weighing 136 carats, and estimated at 12,000,000 francs. The Koh-i-Noor, incomparable for size and grace, weighs 279 carats: it once belonged to the Great Mogul, and is now the property of Queen Victoria. All these were found in India. The Star of the South, the largest ever found in Brazil, weighs 125 carats, and is valued at 10,000,000 francs.

The Diamond is not only an article of ornament or luxury, it is also employed to great advantage in the arts. The fine Cameo and Intaglio owe their perfection to the Diamond, without which they could not be engraved. The beauty of many of the finest pebbles would be lost but for the Diamond; and without it, blocks of crystal could not be cut into slices for spectacles.

The



The Vegetable Kingdom.

The Cereals—Bread-Fruit—Sugar—Coffee—Tea—
The Vine—Cotton.

LEAVING for the present the passive objects of the inorganic world,

world, we enter the busy scene of animated life, and, out of the almost infinite profusion of Plants and Animals occupying every portion of earth and ocean, we shall select a few more immediately connected with commerce. Modern science has established a division of the globe into different and distinct regions or nations of Plants and Animals, the limits of which are partly circumscribed by seas and continuous chains of mountains, but chiefly by inequalities of temperature.

Isothermals

These inequalities are expressed on the map by the isothermals, or lines of equal summer heat and winter cold; lines which, as the exponents of a law, are more potent than walls of adamant in separating and keeping asunder the different families and tribes of the natural kingdoms: for what hinders us, in these fortunate isles, from cultivating our orange groves and hedges of myrtle, but the physical

cal law that arrests the wave of maximum summer temperature of 70° as it pulsates from the thermal equator, a few hundred miles before it reaches our shores? Or, when the tiger quits his lair in the jungles of Central Asia and follows his prey towards the north, what power withholds and whispers, "hitherto mayest thou "come, but no further," leaving the weary miner of the Altai and the Urals to sleep in peace? What but the same invincible law of temperature, a fiat of the Divine will, by which He who formed the creatures, prescribed for them the bounds of their habitation!

Laws of Climate

Although man can bear, with comparative impunity, the burning heat of the tropics, and the intense cold of the frozen zone, he has not yet succeeded in rendering animals cosmopolite: the dog alone, among the vertebrata, is able to accompany him in all his migrations. Whatever may have been the changes which have occurred

occurred in distant geological ages, the climate which we now enjoy has not undergone any material alteration for the last three thousand years.

Stability of Climate

Herodotus speaks of the Papyrus, the Sycamore, the Lotus Plant, and the Date Palm, as belonging to Egypt in his time; and they are still found there. The Doum Palm grew then in the same district in which it is found now; and the Bamboo, Cotton, Rice, Pepper, and the Banyan Tree, were spoken of by the antients as characteristic plants of India, and so they are still. Myrrh and Balsam were then, as now, characteristic plants of Arabia; and Olives, identical with those still growing in the same country, have been found buried in Pompeii.

Food Plants

Those Plants which contain a sufficiency of starch to furnish an essential article of food for man are the most important; and, from the earliest

earliest ages, the progress of civilization has been most intimately connected with agricultural pursuits. The climatal lines which limit the profitable production of some of the bread-producing plants, are traced in colours on the map. These form two great classes: the tropical, comprising Rice, Plantain, Yam, Sweet Potato, Arrow-root, Cassava, Bread Fruit, Sago, Coco-nut, and Date; and the extra tropical, Wheat, Rye, Barley, Oats, Buckwheat, and Potato; Maize being common to both. Rice supports the greatest number of human beings; next to it come Wheat and Maize, then Rye, Barley, and Oats. In temperate climates, Maize yields 80 to 100, but in the torrid zone, 300 to 400 fold. The north polar limit of grains attains its highest point in Scandinavia, where, thanks to the influence of the Gulf Stream, it rises nearly to the North Cape; it gradually declines to the east,

Plants of Tropical and Temperate Climates

Limit of Grains

east, and only touches the south point of Kamtschatka. In America, the Cold Arctic Current carries the line far south on the east coast; but it rises to near the parallel of 60° on the west. The northern limit of Wheat follows nearly the same curve, except in the west, where it falls to the south in crossing the Rocky Mountains.

CEREAL GRAINS.—Wheat is the most important of all the Cereal Grains, not only from the extent of land it occupies in agriculture, but also from the excellent nourishment it affords to man in the form of bread, in a great part of the Old and New World.

Limits of Wheat

The north polar limit of Wheat, as shewn on the map, is, in Great Britain, about lat. 58° north; in Norway, 64°; Sweden, 62°; and the west of Russia, 60° 30′; but it is very little cultivated beyond the 60th parallel,

parallel, and it gradually falls off towards the east.

Altitude at which Wheat grows

In North America, the line of its cultivation extends from lat. 46° on the Atlantic, to lat. 51° on the Pacific side. In inter-tropical America, it grows well at 8000 feet above the sea; it grows luxuriantly in the Andes of Peru and Chili at 10,000 feet; and it produces grain on the banks of Lake Titicaca in Bolivia, at 12,000 feet, in sheltered situations.*

Increased Produce

Since 1760, the produce of Wheat crops in England has been quadrupled, and in Scotland the increase has been ten-fold since 1780. Robertson in his "Rural Recollections," says, "that, in 1727, a field of eight acres of Wheat, "grown in the vicinity of Edinburgh, excited "the greatest curiosity."

The amount of Wheat consumed in this country

* Wheat has been grown in the Madras Presidency in latitude 13° north, at an elevation of 20 feet above the sea. It is excellent in Tasmania.

country is estimated at about one-quarter annually for each individual, young and old. In 1858, the consumption was 16,000,000 quarters.

Barley

Barley is grown to the utmost limit of grain culture in Europe, Asia, and America; in Lapland it extends to 70° north; in Russia to 68°; and in America to 58°. From the north of Scotland it extends to the Shetland Isles. It grows in the Faroe Islands, where, however, it seldom ripens, and does not grow in Iceland. Barley grows at an elevation of 3500 feet in the Alps; 12,000 feet in Bolivia; and the same in the Himalayas. The annual consumption in Britain is 6,000,000 quarters.

Rye

Rye is extensively cultivated in poor soils in Russia, Germany, and parts of France; and it furnishes the bread of one-third of the population of Europe: its northern limits are, in Sweden, lat. 66°, and in Norway 67° north.

Oats

Oats

Oats are cultivated to the extreme north of Scotland in lat. 58° 40′; in Norway to 65°; and in Sweden to 63°; its cultivation extends to the north of Germany and France, but not far south of the latitude of Paris. In North America, Oats are grown to the extreme Polar limits of grain, but not in South America. The Oat succeeds in elevated spots in Bengal, to the parallel of 25° north; and, with Wheat, it has been introduced into Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand.

Rice

Rice is the chief grain in Eastern and Southern Asia, and the Asiatic Archipelago, where it forms the universal food of the people; it grows also in tropical Africa, Egypt, Nubia, Persia, Arabia, and Asia Minor. It is cultivated in Greece and parts of Italy and Spain; in the southern States of North America, West Indies, Venezuela, and Brazil.

Maize

Maize

Maize is the most extensively diffused grain in America, where it is grown from the south extremity of Chili to lat. 40° in the north. It was brought to Europe by Columbus in 1493, and made its way to the Levant, India, China, Japan, the Philippines, &c. It was introduced to Guinea by the Portuguese in the sixteenth century.

Plantain

Bread Fruit.—The Plantain forms half the food of the people of New Granada; and it is calculated that ground yielding wheat for the sustenance of one man, would grow Plantains for twenty-five men. The Bread-fruit tree yields fresh fruit for eight or nine months in the year; and it is estimated that three trees are sufficient to feed one human being. Captain Cook says, "if "an inhabitant of the South Sea Islands has "planted ten Bread-fruit trees, he has not only "provided

Bread Fruit

"provided bread for his own life, but left to "his children a capital in trees." In the islands of the Indian Archipelago, where Sago grows wild in the woods, the native cuts down the tree, scrapes out the pith, and when it is mixed with water and strained, the Sago meal is ready for use.* But, this superabundance of nature's gifts, this facility for obtaining the staff of life, lessens the energy of man and retards his progress. There is a native saying to

Sago

Effects of abundance

* "A good sized Sago-palm will give 1800 cakes of three to the pound, "of which five are the ordinary quantity consumed by a man in a day. "Hence a single tree may be considered equal to the support of a man "throughout the year. The labour to prepare the food is as follows:— "Two men, working moderately, will finish a tree in five days, and "two women will bake the whole in about five days more; so we may esti- "mate that, with ten days labour, a man may produce food for a whole "year. That is, if he possess trees of his own; for all the Sago-palms are "become private property, and cost about 9*s.* each. Again, the cost of "labour being 4*d.* a day, and the cost of the tree 9*s.*, the expense of the "year's food for a man is only 12*s.*"—*A. Russel Wallace, F.R.G.S., Proceedings Roy. Geog. Soc., Jan.* 1862.

to the effect, "that New Granada would be "something if we could exterminate the Plan- "tain and the Cane, the parents of idleness and "intemperance."* It is in the temperate regions where he is doomed to a continual, but not exhaustive, struggle with nature that man has made the greatest advances in civilization.

Sugar

The SUGAR CANE is a native of the tropical zone, originating in the East Indies or China, but now extensively cultivated in both hemispheres, in eastern Asia to lat. 30°, and in North America, as far as lat. 32° north, while in Spain, it grows in gardens to lat. 38° north. In Nepaul it succeeds at an elevation of 4000, and in the Cordilleras of South America 5000 feet above the sea. Sugar was not known to the

* Holton's History of New Granada.

the Greeks and Romans; it was cultivated in India from the earliest period, and was taken from Arabia to Europe before the time of the Crusades. The Moors introduced it into Spain, and thence it was conveyed, in the fifteenth century, to Madeira and the Canaries. West India Sugar was first cultivated at the beginning of the sixteenth century, at which time it was extensively grown in Mexico and in Portuguese Brazil. In the seventeenth century, it was taken by the English colonists to Barbadoes and Jamaica, and by the French to Guadeloupe, Martinique, the Mauritius, and Bourbon. At present, the cane is grown in, and Sugar exported from, the West Indies, Guiana, and Brazil, in the New World; the Mauritius, Bourbon and the gold coast in Africa; and Bengal, Siam, Java, the Philippines, and China, in Asia.

The Sugar maple tree, which grows abundantly

Maple Sugar

dantly in the northern States of America and in Canada, yields, in spring, a large amount of sap, from which Sugar is prepared by boiling. Although extensively used, its entire product is not more than one-eighth of that of the Sugar cane. It yields only 2½, while the cane yields 12 to 16 per cent. of saccharine matter.

Beet-root Sugar

The discovery that Sugar could be manufactured from the juice of the beet-root was made, about a century ago, by the chemist Achard, at the instance of Frederick the Great; but he could only produce 2 per cent. of saccharine matter, and even that so bad as to be unfit for use. The attempt was, for political purposes, renewed, under Napoleon I., in 1809; and in 1810, there were 200 beet-root manufactories in France, yielding 2,000,000 lbs. of Sugar. Its cultivation has since extended into Belgium, the States of the Germanic Confederation,

deration, and Russia. Instead of 2 per cent., as at first, the beet now yields from 10 to 14 per cent. of saccharine matter; and so rapid has been its increase, that, in 1858, France produced 150,000 tons of beet-root Sugar. Yet, half a century ago, this interesting branch of industry was deemed a chimera.

Consumption of Sugar

In the year 1700, the quantity of Sugar consumed in Britain was estimated at 10,000 tons. In 1858, our consumption was 437,000 tons, the United States 200,000, and Russia 60,000 tons.

M'Culloch estimates that, in 1858, the entire produce was, cane Sugar, 1,250,000 tons; beet Sugar, 230,000 tons. Assuming the whole, in round numbers, at 1,500,000 tons, the money paid every year for this important article of consumption by the people of Europe and the United States would be equal to £52,920,000 sterling.

The

Coffee

The COFFEE shrub grows within the tropics under a temperature of 55° to 70° Fah.; it was formerly believed to be a native of Yemen, in Arabia Felix, but it has been recently traced to the woods of Kaffa and Enarea, south of Abyssinia, where it grows in a wild as well as in a cultivated state. Coffee was not known, as a beverage, to the Greeks and Romans; it is believed to have been first used in Yemen about the middle of the fifteenth century. Coffee-houses were opened at Constantinople in 1554, in London in 1660, and in Paris in 1672. The Dutch, desirous of sharing in the lucrative trade to which it gave rise, were the first to cultivate Coffee in their colony of

Coffee Tree

Java. Some plants were sent to the Botanic Garden of Amsterdam; and, towards the end of the reign of Louis XIV., one of them was kept as a curiosity in the Royal Gardens of Paris. From this, several plants were reared, one

one of which was carried by a sailor, named Dèclieux, to the Island of Martinique; and it is asserted, that all the Coffee trees in the West Indies and Brazil have been derived from this single hot-house plant.

Little more than a century since, all the Coffee in use was brought from Arabia, and its consumption was estimated at 10,000 or 12,000 lbs. In 1858, the annual consumption for Britain alone was estimated at 16,000 tons; and for all Europe, North America, and Australia, 291,000 tons. In 1807, the consumption of Coffee in Britain was little more than 1,000,000 lbs., whereas in 1858 it was upwards of 35,000,000 lbs.

Tea

The TEA shrub, which somewhat resembles the Myrtle in form, grows naturally to a height of from ten to twelve feet, but when cultivated, it is kept down to about half that height. It will

Limits of the Tea Plant

will not thrive within the torrid zone, its extreme range of growth being between Eastern China and the River Bramapootra, lat. 15° to 40° north; but its profitable cultivation is limited to the zone between 25° and 33° north, with a mean temperature of 61° to 72° Fah. On the east its cultivation is arrested by the Southern Ocean, and on the west it does not extend beyond the borders of Tibet. The plant is indigenous only in China and in Assam, on its borders, where it grows at an elevation of 2000 to 4000 feet. Its cultivation is successful in Java, Singapore, Penang, and Malacca, as well as in the Himalayas and the north-west provinces of India. It grows well in South America, but, commercially, its produce cannot compete with that of China. It has been tried in Algeria, but fails, on account of the high temperature. Mr Fortune says there are two species of the Tea plant, the *Thea bohea*

Black and Green Teas

bohea, which grows in the southern provinces of China, and *Thea viridis*, which grows only in the northern provinces.

Conveyance of Tea

There are several great commercial lines for Tea from China: 1*st*, by sea, chiefly, and, till of late years, almost exclusively, from Canton to Europe, North America, and partly to India, and the East India islands; the chief traders being the British, the Dutch, and North Americans. The overland routes for Tea are (1) north, through the Gobi desert to Siberia, and partly to Europe, which is conducted in caravans of 200 to 250 loaded camels; (2) westwards from the south-west provinces of China to Mongolia, Bokhara, and Persia; (3) towards Tibet, Nepaul, and Botan; (4) southwards to Ava, Cochin China, and Burma.

Tea is largely consumed by the nomadic tribes of Northern and Central Asia; but it is

is pre-eminently the national beverage of China and Japan. The Chinese Emperor, Kien Lun, made a poem in praise of Tea, which was much admired. After describing its preparation, he says, "drink then slowly this delicious beverage and thou wilt become strong against the five cares which commonly disturb the spirits. The sweet calm which is obtained from a drink thus prepared, may be tasted, felt, but not described."

Poem in praise of Tea

Tea was not known in Europe till the seventeenth century; it was first used in Russia and Holland, and appears not to have been introduced into England till about the middle of the century. Pepys, in his Diary, 1661, says, "I sent for a cup of Tea, which I had never drunk before." In 1664, the East India Company made a present to the king, Charles II., of two pounds of Tea; after this

Tea in England

this time it was sold at sixty shillings a pound weight.

Tea Trade

The late rise and present extent of the British Tea trade are among the greatest marvels in the history of commerce. In the year 1800, the consumption in Great Britain was under 3,000,000 lbs.; in 1859, upwards of 75,000,000 lbs. Assuming the average annual amount of Tea consumed in the United Kingdom at 70,000,000 lbs., the cost to consumers is, according to M'Culloch, £10,855,000 sterling.

Maté

The Maté or Paraguay Tea is a species of holly, growing in the forests of Paraguay, Uruguay, and Brazil, the leaves of which are used like Tea universally in the eastern states of South America. It is imbibed through tubes having a bulb perforated with small holes.

The Vine

The VINE grows spontaneously in all the lower

The Vine

lower regions of the Caucasus in the north, and especially in the south of the chain, in Armenia, and on the south of the Caspian. This is the native region of the species. It thrives well in all the temperate countries of Western Asia, especially in Cabul, Cashmere, and Kunawar. From Asia it passed into Greece, and thence into Sicily. The Phocæns carried it to the south of France, and the Romans planted it on the banks of the Rhine. The grape is cultivated as an article of husbandry from lat. 21° to 50° north, over a zone of about 2000 miles in breadth: from the shores of Portugal to the borders of China. Farther north it does not ripen sufficiently to make wine, and farther south it is injured by excessive heat. The best wines are made near the centre of the zone.

Limits of the Vine

The actual limits of the Vine, grown for making wine, extend from Portugal through France

France to the south of Bretagne, in lat. 47° 30′ north. A small quantity of wine is made, exceptionally, in Jersey.

In the west and part of the centre of France, the elevation of the soil renders the climate too severe for the Vine. In Belgium it is arrested on the Meuse, lat. 50° 45′ north; in Prussia it reaches only to Potsdam; and in Saxony it extends to Meissen and the borders of the Elbe near Dresden, in lat. 51° 15′ north. There are extensive vineyards in Bohemia and Hungary; the chains of the Riesengebirge and the Carpathians fix the limits in this part of Europe, in lat. 48°; thence it passes into the Bukowina; but Galicia has no Vines. In Russia, the Vine is first met with at Mohilev, on the Dniester, lat. 48°. On the Bug, the line descends to lat. 47°. The Vine is largely cultivated at Tcherkask; on the Wolga, it is grown at Sarepta, lat. 48° 21′. In Central Asia, the Vine is grown

grown at Kamil, lat. 43°; and at Lassa, in Tibet, in lat. 29° 41′. The elevation and extent of the mountains of Central Asia present an obstacle to its extension northwards; in China, it is grown at Pekin. In the Central States of North America all attempts to cultivate the Vine of Europe (*Vitis vinifera*) have failed, and an American Vine, which grows there spontaneously, is adopted. The more favourable climate of New Mexico and California permits the growth of the ordinary Vine, which is now extensively and profitably cultivated. In the southern hemisphere, the Vine grows in Chili, and produces excellent wine, on the east of the Andes, at Mendoza and San Juan. The wine of the Cape colony is, partly, of the finest quality; that of New South Wales resembles the produce of the Loire; the climate of Tasmania is too humid for its culture.

Vine in America

The

The limits of the present culture of the Vine are marked by a line, coloured blue on the map; but in so far as refers to the west of Europe (Normandy and England), this line is exceptional, the boundary there being determined by economical and commercial, rather than by climatal laws. The Vine was grown in England, in vineyards and gardens, during the early part of the twelfth century, and, according to William of Malmesbury, the grapes of the Vale of Gloucester produced a palatable wine, little inferior to that of France. Doomsday book, and several other authorities, attest the fact, that most of the large castles and monasteries of England had vineyards attached to them; and numerous charters from the ninth to the thirteenth century prove the cultivation of the Vine in Normandy, Bretagne, and Picardy. But the grapes grown in these countries are believed to have produced only a small

The Vine in England

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Cause of its abandonment

small and uncertain quantity of acid wine, of which the best that could be said was, that "it "was not always detestable." The chief causes which led to the abandonment of the Vine culture in England and Normandy were the opening up of routes for the importation of foreign wines, the improvement of taste consequent on the introduction of Tea, Coffee, and Sugar; the improved growth of grain, and the culture of the hop, which introduced a cheaper and more wholesome beverage. These reasons are sufficient to account for the change without resorting to the exploded opinion of Arago, that it resulted from a change of climate. The ready means of transit provided by railways appear, according to De Candole, to be causing at present the actual limits of the Vine culture to recede still farther from the north-west towards the centre of Europe.

Green

Grapes and Currants

Green grapes are extensively imported from Lisbon and Malaga: the currants of commerce (Corinth grapes) come from the Ionian Islands, of which they are the staple, and from the Morea. On an average of three years, the annual import is 419,846 cwt., yielding a revenue of £330,000 sterling. Dried grapes, or raisins, from Spain, Turkey, and Austrian Italy, were imported in 1858, to the extent of 357,485 cwt.

Cotton

COTTON.—Of all substances furnished by the Vegetable Kingdom, not used for food, Cotton is the most valuable. Supplying, as it does, one of the primary wants of humanity, it plays an important part in the world's commerce, whether considered in relation to the thousands of vessels constantly engaged in its transport, or the number of people, estimated at three millions, to whom it gives employment. On account

account of its abundance, its cheapness, and the facility with which it can be spun and woven, it has in great part replaced linen, silk, and wool. Its commercial value is such, that, till lately, it formed one half, in value, of all the exports from the United States of America. The Cotton of commerce is a sort of vegetable wool, forming an envelope to the seeds of a kind of plant of which there are many varieties, some annual and others perennial: 1. The *Herbaceous*, which grows in Egypt, Persia, and India, and has been propagated in the islands of the Mediterranean, Naples, and the South of Spain. Some of its varieties are cultivated in the States of North America. 2. The *Shrub* Cotton, which grows spontaneously in the tropical regions of Asia, Africa, and America. 3. The *Cotton Tree*, which grows to a height of 15 or 20 feet in India, Arabia, and Egypt, whence it has been transplanted to the Canary Islands

Varieties of Cotton

American Cotton

Islands and America; it is found, also, on the west coast of Africa and in the interior of China. In America, Cotton requires a dry sandy soil, and salt appears to improve its quality, since the finest in the world is grown in the low islands on the coast of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, where the rain which falls is strongly impregnated with salt. In India, Cotton flourishes in a moist retentive soil, and showers of rain, impregnated with salt, during a certain period of the growth of the plant, improves the quality of the Cotton wool. This fact may account for the success of a very recent experiment in the Sunderbunds at the mouth of the Ganges. Sea-island, or Black-seed Cotton, appears to have come originally from Persia, although the seed used for its earliest cultivation, in 1786, came from the Bahamas, to which it had been conveyed from the small island of Anguilla in the Caribbean Sea

Sea. The first harvest of American Cotton, grown between lat. 30° and 33° N., was gathered in 1788, and in ten years it entirely replaced the cultivation of Indigo. The first import of Cotton was received from America in 1790; and thus the immense trade which has since sprung up is of only seventy-two years' standing. "The "rapid growth and prodigious magnitude of "the Cotton manufacture of Great Britain are, "beyond all question, the most extraordinary "phenomena in the history of industry. Such "has been the influence of the stupendous dis- "coveries and inventions of Hargreaves, Ark- "wright, Crompton, Cartwright and others, "that we have overcome all difficulties; that "neither the extreme cheapness of labour in "Hindostan, nor the excellence to which the "natives have attained, has enabled them to "withstand the competition of those who buy "their Cotton; and who, after carrying it

Cotton Manufacture

" 5000 miles to be manufactured, carry back " the goods to them: this," says M'Culloch, " is the triumph of mechanical genius."* On the average of five years, 1700 to 1705, the total quantity of Cotton wool imported into Britain was estimated at little more than one million of pounds weight (1,170,881 lbs.) In 1858, the import was 850,000,000 lbs., value about £18,700,000. The entire value of Cotton goods manufactured in Britain on the accession of George III., in 1760, was estimated at only £200,000 a year, while in 1857-8, the annual value was £52,000,000 sterling. M'Culloch estimates that 1,200,000 people owe their subsistence to the manufacture of Cotton; and that the aggregate annual amount of wages paid is probably £8,000,000 sterling.

Imports of Cotton.

So

* M'Culloch's Commercial Dictionary.

Importance of the Cotton Trade

So vast are the interests involved in the Cotton trade, that it is said a shortcoming of 1,000,000 bales of raw material would lessen Great Britain's earnings by £20,000,000 sterling.

Last year, the Marquis of Tweeddale, late Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Presidency, drew the attention of the House of Lords to this important national question, and gave it as his opinion, that if the merchants of England would create a market for the raw produce of India, they would, in turn, find an ample demand in that great country for articles of English manufacture, which the natives now cannot afford to purchase.

Indian Cotton

Sixteen years ago, when the question of Cotton supply from India was under consideration of the Government in that country, this patriotic nobleman, foreseeing the difficulty

culty which might occur in the event of a short supply of Cotton from the Southern States of America, and knowing how slowly improvements are effected by Agriculturists, even to meet a profitable demand for any particular commodity, brought his extensive practical knowledge so to bear on the cultivation of Cotton in India, that, had his suggestions been followed out, we should, long ere now, have known to what extent we might depend on a supply of Cotton from India or elsewhere to meet the present deficiency.

His Lordship shewed that there are many inducements to improve the indigenous Cotton, which from time immemorial has clothed the whole population of India. Its indigenous character enables it, above all other varieties of Cotton, to bear without deterioration those influences which are destructive to the exotic species

species; and, being an annual, the native cultivator, as soon as the boles are gathered, prepares the land for a new crop, which he reaps and markets within the year. He attributes the deterioration in quality of the exotic Cotton wool to the change of climate and the want of those elements which are so abundantly supplied in the Cotton fields of America, where it is grown in such perfection.

Its increase

The growth of Cotton in India is already nearly double that of the Southern States of America, and is rapidly increasing.*

In

* This is shewn by a return of the exports from Bombay; the
Average of 13 years, ending 1846*a*, 117,303,312 lbs.
„ „ 13 „ „ 1859*b*, 187,000,000 „
„ „ 2 „ „ 1861*c*, 344,736,800 „
shewing an increase of 60 per cent. in the second period over the first; of 85 per cent. in the last ten years over the second period of 13 years, or 145 per cent. over the first period. (*a*.) Chapman's Cotton Commerce of India, p. 28. (*b*.) Mann's Cotton Trade. (*c*.) Bombay Price Current.

In 1846, the average annual import from Bombay was 117,000,000 lbs., while in 1861, it was 344,000,000 lbs.; thus exceeding the whole consumption of Great Britain in 1834, which was then only about 303,000,000 lbs.

This increase proves that, under every disadvantage, India has been able to compete, in point of price, with every other country; while means are in operation which will gradually improve its quality.* Every encouragement is now held out to native industry. A Cotton Agency has been formed with a large capital; and steam communication, by land and water, is daily diminishing the difficulty of transport. Government voted eleven lacs of rupees (£100,000) to be expended in opening the River Godavery, in the three years, 1861 to 1864,

Cotton Agency

* "The quality of some of the Cotton grown in India is even now "nearly equal to that of New Orleans."—*Dr Forbes Watson.*

1864; and when this great artery is opened, the expense of carriage will be reduced from 2¾*d.* to 3-8ths of a penny per ton, per mile. While it is to India, then, that we must look for immediate aid, the Cotton Supply Association of Manchester are wisely distributing seed to all parts of the globe; and we shall soon have competitors from Western Africa, Algeria, Natal, Queensland, and the Sandwich Islands.

The



The Animal Kingdom.

Hunting—Fishing.

HUNTING and Fishing are the occupations of man in the earliest stages of society; for the coverings of animals are as necessary to him for clothing as the flesh is for subsistence. The most civilized nations derive a great

great part of their food from animals; while they employ their skins, wool, and silk, as materials for dress. An important branch of industry and commerce is thus derived from

Wool

the Animal Kingdom. Wool is imported from Spain, Germany, Northern India, Iceland, and

Silk

Australia; silk from Italy, Bengal, and China; hides from South America, the North of Europe, the East Indies, and the Cape of

Furs and Skins

Good Hope; furs and skins from North America and Siberia. And for dyeing these substances, cochineal and lac, the products of insects, are imported from Mexico and the

Tallow

East Indies. The fatty portions of animals are employed for producing light; and tallow is largely imported from Russia, India, and

Horns and Hides

Australia. Horns are manufactured into various implements and ornaments; and the parings of horns, hides, and hoofs, are boiled

Bones

down into gelatine and glue. The bones of animals

animals, and the guano of birds, preserved in rainless regions, are employed for manure. Blood is used for food in poor countries, and, in England and France, for sugar refining, and the manufacture of Prussian blue. Every portion of the globe furnishes its tribute to this rich industry; but the Fur-bearing animals of commerce are inhabitants, chiefly, of the northern portions of the earth, and these comprise two separate provinces. 1. The Asiatic, including the whole of Siberia, with Kamtchatka, the district of the Amoor, and Manchooria. 2. The North American province, including the Woodlands, the Savannahs, or Prairie lands, and the "Barren Grounds" of the Polar Regions.

From continual hunting during two centuries, the most valuable families of the fur-bearers have greatly decreased in number, and prices have increased in proportion. When the Cossacs

Furs

Cossacs conquered Kamtchatka, at the beginning of the eighteenth century, Sables were so plentiful, that half a dozen could be procured in barter for a pocket-knife, and immense profits were made by exchange; but these times have long since passed away. In the New World, the Beaver and the Bison-rat formed at one time the staple of the American trade; but, in consequence of silk being used in the manufacture of hats, the hunting of the Beaver is now almost abandoned. In the Eastern province, the Ermine is the most valuable skin. It takes its name from Armenia, whence it came originally; its fine fur is always of a dazzling white in winter, except the tip of the tail, which is invariably black. It is the emblem of purity, and is used to trim the robes of princes and magistrates. The countries of Europe where furs are most in demand, are, England, Russia, and France. The French are admitted to be

be the best furriers; but the principal traders in furs are the British, German, Danish, Russian, and American.

Fur Trade

The fur trade was commenced by the French at Quebec and Montreal. In 1670, King Charles II. established the Hudson Bay Company, with exclusive privileges for trading with the Indians. There are besides, the Russian-American Fur Company, whose field of operations is the north-west of America; and the Danish and Greenland Company of Copenhagen. The fairs of Frankfort and Leipzig supply furs to the merchants of Middle Europe; but the extension of railways is fast tending to diminish the importance of these depôts.

Whale Fishery

The pursuit of the Whale presents an object of excitement little consonant with the usually grave affairs of trade; and its chase and capture have been prosecuted by our nautical

nautical Nimrods, into the recesses of ocean, with a spirit more akin to that of the huntsman in pursuit of the wolf or the wild boar. Like him, too, they have succeeded in extirpating the object of their search, or, at least, in driving it into nearly inaccessible retreats.

Whale fishing was practised on a small scale in the ninth century, on the coasts of Norway; but this was not the true Whale, which never leaves its haunts in the Arctic Seas. It was the species of dolphin, called bottle-nose, which alone reaches the seas of Europe. It appears that the Biscayans were the first who prosecuted the fishery as a commercial pursuit. This they did with great activity during the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries. The Whales, though small, were very productive in oil, and their flesh was used for food; Whales' tongues being ranked among the delicacies that adorned the table of the middle ages.

Whale's Tongue a Delicacy

ages. The Whales became gradually scarce, and finally extinct in the Bay of Biscay; when the French fishery ceased.

The attempts of the Dutch and English to find a north-west passage led to the discovery of the haunts of the Whale in the Greenland seas. The Dutch soon outstripped all competitors; and, in 1680, they employed 260 ships and 1400 men in the fishery. The Americans commenced the Whale fishery in 1690, and have carried it on with greater vigour and success than perhaps any other people. In 1858, the American trade employed 600 ships, with an aggregate burden of 198,593 tons. The Whale is the principal object of the fishery; but the Walrus and the Seal are extensively fished, or rather hunted, on the borders of the icy sea. These amphibious animals are so numerous, that the English fishers killed more than 25,000 in one season; and,

Walrus and Seal

British and Colonial Fishery

and, in 1858, the Norwegians took 54,000 Seals from Spitzbergen. The French have long since abandoned the northern fishery, and the British have gradually withdrawn from it since the abolition of premiums in 1822. In 1789, 161 Whale ships, aggregate burden 46,000 tons, left the ports of Great Britain for the Arctic Regions. In 1834, there were 112 ships, but in 1842, there were only 18. In 1852, the number again increased to 46 ships; but since then they have so greatly decreased that the trade may be said to be virtually abandoned in Britain. But the British colonies continue the fishery, especially for the Seal and Walrus. Peterhead is now the principal port for the northern Whale ships in Great Britain. This year, steamers are sent from Dundee for the Seal fishery ground at Belle Isle, and the Whale fishery at the mouth of Hudson Strait. The southern fishery is conducted in the Indian

Southern Fishery

dian Ocean, on the coasts of Brazil and Patagonia, and south of Cape Horn, to lat. 62° south, and west of the Cape to the coast of Chili, Peru, and California; also, on the west and south of Africa, and south of the Cape of Good Hope, to lat. 50° south and long. 47° east. This fishery, though more distant, is less hazardous than that of the north. The Rorqual, which is much smaller than the right Whale, and yields an inferior oil, is found in the Atlantic; and in the Pacific, the Black Whale of the Americans is met with in great abundance: its oil is less valuable than that of the Rorqual. Both of these furnish whalebone. The Seal and Walrus abound on the Pacific shores of North America, to the north of California. The southern fishery is that chiefly followed at present; and there are several establishments in the British Colonies, one of which, at Auckland, was commenced in 1847,

1847, with a capital of £100,000. Nearly 100 American ships, besides Dutch and French, are engaged in the Whale fishery of the Indian Ocean, which extends from Java Head to Cape Leeuwin, a distance of 1600 miles; and yields a revenue of £250,000 annually.

The Whale a Discoverer

The Whale has rendered good service to navigation, since it has allured the hardy sailor from his own shores to the most distant seas of the globe, and trained him to do battle with the elements in every zone, from the frozen shores of the Arctic to those of the Antarctic pole. Each species of Whale inhabits a belt of ocean more or less cold; but it is never found in the warm waters of the Gulf Stream, a fact which led to the discovery of that "river in the ocean," and thus pointed out the proper route between Europe and America. It may, also, be said to have been the first discoverer of the north-west passage; for

for, Whales wounded on the Atlantic side of America have been found on the Pacific side; and since they cannot cross the equator, on account of the high temperature, they must have traversed open water to the north of America. The extensive use of coal-gas, and the increased importation of vegetable oils, have caused the decrease of whale-oil to be little felt; while the introduction of gutta-percha has, to a large extent, supplied the deficiency of whale-bone.

The Cod

The Cod is an ocean fish, found only in northern seas, never in the Mediterranean. Its native habitat is, probably, under the ice of the north Polar Regions, whence it descends every year to the northern waters of Europe and America. The great resort of the Cod is the banks of Newfoundland, and the other sand-banks off Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and the New England States, to which

which they are attracted by the vast number of worms produced in the sandy bottoms. Thence they return to the Polar Seas to spawn in security; but want of food compels them to move south as soon as the waters are open. Few are taken north of Iceland; but they abound on the south and south-west coasts, as well as on the coasts of Norway, in the Baltic, and off the Orkneys and Western Isles.*

The Cod decreases towards the south, and disappears before reaching the mouth of the Strait of Gibraltar. The Great Bank of Newfoundland has long been, and probably still is, the principal seat of the distant Cod fishery. The French, as proprietors of the coast of Acadia, Cape Breton, the Gulf of St Lawrence, and Newfoundland, had, for many years

* Quite recently (1861), a new and most prolific fishing ground has been discovered at the small islet of Rockall, in the Atlantic, 200 miles west of St Kilda.

French Fishery

years, the most flourishing fishery in the world; but, early in the eighteenth century, these colonies passed into the hands of the English; and there now only remains to them the small Islands of St Pierre and Miquelon, which were restored by the treaties of 1814-15. In 1578, France had, on the banks of Newfoundland 150, Spain 120, Portugal 50, and England only 30 or 40 vessels. But, during the war in 1814, when the French were excluded, the produce of the English fishery alone, on these banks, was valued at more than £2,800,000 sterling. Since then it has rapidly declined; and now it hardly exists. The Cod taken off the shores of Shetland and the Western Isles is now mostly cured and dried; but part of it is still taken fresh to London, in welled vessels. Formerly, the edges of the Dogger Bank, in the North Sea, afforded the chief supplies of Cod; and the

the finest fish are still procured from the Well Bank; but of late, London has been supplied with Cod taken between Yarmouth and the Nore; in consequence of the nearness of which, the price is reduced 20 to 50 per cent. below that of the period 1815-20.

The Herring Fishery

The Herring Fishery is a branch of industry in which we in Scotland are specially interested, whether considered as a training school for our seamen, or a source of active and profitable trade.

The home of the Herring is generally believed to be within the Polar Seas, whence it is described as coming every year in vast shoals towards the south, along the coast of North America, where the annual inundation covers the shores of Chesapeake Bay and extends to Carolina. The shoal is said to advance along the eastern shore of the North Sea to the English Channel, as far as the north of

of France. On the Pacific coast of Asia it is found as far south as Kamtchatka.

Supposed Migration of the Herring

According to this hypothesis, the Herring remains for many months of winter within the Arctic circle in order to recruit after spawning, and to partake of the insect food, which is there very abundant. The mighty host, it is said, commences its migration in spring, the vanguard appearing off the east coast of the Shetland and Orkney Islands in April and May, followed by the main body in June. The approach of the Herring is indicated by numerous flocks of birds, which follow to prey upon them. The shoal is divided into distinct columns of 5 or 6 miles in length, and 3 or 4 in width. The water rises in ripples before them; and, in fine weather, they reflect a variety of colours of the most splendid gem-like appearance. On arriving off Shetland, according to Pennant, one portion passes to the east and

and the other to the west of the British Isles, where their numbers fill every creek and bay. The former proceeds to Yarmouth, the great and antient mart of Herrings; they then pass through the English Channel and disappear. Those which take to the westward, where the chief stationary fishery is situated, proceed to the north of Ireland, where they meet with a second interruption, and are obliged to make a second division: the one passing to the west, where it is lost in the Atlantic, and the other to the Irish Sea. "This instinct," says Pennant, "was given to the Herrings that they "might deposit their spawn in warmer seas, "that would nurture and vivify it more as- "suredly than those of the frozen zone." "It "is not," he observes, "want of food that "brings them to us, for they come full and "fat, and return lean and wasted." Such was the generally received opinion. But investigations

gations lately instituted have led to the conviction, that the Herring does not migrate, but only descends to a greater or less depth in the water. The proofs are, that the spawn has been found, by means of the diving-bell, at a depth of 12 or 14 fathoms; that the fish is taken at all seasons on the Caithness coast and in Loch Fyne; and that there are known specific differences in the Herring taken from the different fishing grounds. The principal spawning season is in summer, when, in favourable localities, the Herring congregate in shoals, rising to the surface and heading the tide wave; and it is when intently occupied in the preservation of the species, regardless of individual safety, that they are taken by millions in the many thousand miles of net spread to ensnare them. The Netherlands government has instituted inquiries among the fishermen to collect observations for the construction of a *Herring*

The Herring not migratory

Herring Chart, which, it is hoped, may throw additional light on this interesting question. It appears, from the experience of the Dutch, that the best "take" occurs in places where the surface of the sea has a temperature of 54° to 57° Fah. Above and, especially, below that temperature, the "catch" rapidly declines.

The Dutch Fishery

The Herring was unknown to the antients, being rarely, if ever, seen in the Mediterranean. The Dutch long enjoyed a sort of monopoly of the fishing, preparation, and sale of Herring; but, from the commencement of the nineteenth century, the British have completely supplanted them, and have now the exclusive means of supplying all the markets in the world. This is owing to the circumstance, that the Herring is more abundant on the shores of Scotland than any other place, and to the intelligent care bestowed on the regulation of the fishery and the preparation of its products.

The

The Scottish Fishery

The Herring fishery in Scotland, for the summer season, begins towards the end of July and finishes on 30th September. The autumn fishery begins in October, on the coasts of England and France. The French fish, during summer, in the open sea, three miles from the shores of Scotland, the Orkneys, and the Isle of Man; and, in autumn, on the coasts of England and France. The French Herring fishery employs, annually, 500 to 550 boats, with 7,500 men; and the produce is 140,000 to 150,000 barrels, all of which are consumed in the country.

The French Fishery

Value of the British Fishery

The British Herring fishery is the most important in the world. In 1857, an unfavourable year, the Scotch fishery alone, yielded 580,813 barrels. If the Yarmouth fishery be added, it makes a total of 1,000,000 barrels. Of these, 367,114 barrels were exported, chiefly to Germany; the centre of the trade being

being at Stettin, which received 128,603 barrels. The Scotch fishery employs 11,000 to 12,000 boats, and about 45,000 fishermen, besides an equal number of persons engaged in cooperage and curing—in all, upwards of 90,000; while the annual money value of this interesting fishery amounts to at least £1,000,000.

The Dutch fishery now hardly produces 40,000 barrels of Herring, 15,000 of which are consumed in the country, and the rest are exported. In 1847, Denmark sent 26,000 barrels of Herring to Stettin; in 1856, only 9. Since 1860, there has been an increasing tendency to open the markets of France, and other Continental countries, to the trade in British Herring, by a reduction of import duties.

The



he Curiosities of Commerce.

Tobacco — Guano — Gutta-Percha and Caoutchouc — Ice and Snow — Petroleum or Rock Oil.

DID time permit, an interesting chapter might be written on what we may term

term the "Curiosities of Commerce," embracing, among other items, TOBACCO, GUANO, GUTTA-PERCHA, ICE, and PETROLEUM; all, except the first, of recent introduction and rapid development: these, however, we can only shortly notice.

Tobacco

TOBACCO (*Nicotiana Tabacum*), so named by the natives of the Antilles, (not from the island of Tobago, as erroneously supposed,) is a plant indigenous to America, where the custom of smoking was common at the time of the conquest. It is not certainly known by whom it was introduced into Europe, where it was first employed as a medicine, but soon came into general use as a luxury, if not even a necessary of life. In 1586, English settlers returning from Virginia, where Raleigh attempted to found a colony, brought Tobacco and the practice of smoking with them.

Introduction of Tobacco

them. Hence it spread to Holland, Spain, Portugal, and France; and afterwards to Turkey, Persia, India, China, and Japan. Considering that the plant has neither beauty nor sweet odour to recommend it,—that it affords no edible fruit, and when eaten, produces nausea, vomiting, and giddiness,—it is wonderful that it should be used in any other way than as a medicinal agent; and especially so, that it should become an important object of cultivation, manufacture, and trade, employing thousands of persons, consumed by millions, and yielding an immense revenue. Like most novel customs, to which tea was no exception, the use of Tobacco experienced abuse and persecution. Smoking was punished as a crime in many countries of Europe when first introduced; and in his well-known diatribe, King James I. calls it "a "filthy novelty, a custom hateful to the nose, "harmful

"harmful to the brain, and dangerous to the "lungs." But the use of Tobacco for smoking, chewing, and snuff-taking, prevailed over

Its extension

every obstacle, spreading itself to the extreme confines of the Old World. It is now cultivated almost universally, since it thrives not only in the warmer, but even in the temperate climates, as in France and North Germany; fiscal regulations being, probably, the only obstacle to its cultivation, even in England. As an instance of the caprice of fashion, it is noteworthy that, in the reign of George III., smoking was in England nearly superseded, among the higher and middle classes, by snuff-taking. The Tobacco of Virginia and Maryland is still considered superior to that of Europe, the Levant, or India. Cuba is celebrated for its cigars. In 1789, duty was paid on 8,000,000 lbs. of Tobacco, imported into the United Kingdom; and in 1852, the imports amounted to 23,944,968 lbs.

23,944,968 lbs. Taking Denmark as a basis, Schouw calculates, that considerably more than one half the adult male population of Europe are consumers of Tobacco.

Guano

GUANO.—This important substance, which only a few years since was introduced into Europe, is already one of the chief objects of the maritime commerce of civilized nations. It is the result of the accumulation, during untold ages, of the excrement and debris of millions of birds, which congregate during night on the islands and rocks of the South Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. These constitute, in some of the islands of the rainless regions, a deposit so immense, that, according to the calculations of Humboldt, supposing the surface entirely covered with birds, they could not deposit a layer of more than one centimetre (little more than a third of an inch) in thickness

Antiquity of Guano

ness during 300 years. Hence the deposits actually excavated, carry us back to an antiquity so remote, that no chronology, no admitted theory relative to the age of the world, can give any idea of it.

Importance of Guano to Agriculture

Peru and Chili have owed their fertility to Guano ever since the time of the Incas; and the example of these countries, together with the discovery of abundant deposits, induced European merchants to freight ships for its importation. The speedy and profitable sale of these cargoes, and the recognition of the incomparable benefit this material is capable of rendering to agriculture, have given to the trade a rapidly increasing importance. Besides the famous Chincha Islands, off the coast of Peru, in lat. 13° 25′ south, and the Lobos Islands, 5° to 7° south, Guano is found in greater or less abundance on the shores of Venezuela, Bolivia, Chili, and Patagonia; but,

but, beyond the rainless regions, its quality is much depreciated, on account of the ammoniacal salts being partly or wholly washed away. On the small island of Ichaboe, on the south-west coast of Africa, the deposit of Guano is exhausted; but that of Sardinia, procured from caves filled with the excrement and remains of bats, has found its way into the market; and similar deposits have been found in Algeria. In the Jura Mountains of France, especially at Auxelles, near Besançon, caverns have been discovered, where millions of bats have lived and died during many centuries, whose remains form accumulated heaps of valuable Guano; so valuable, that it has been proposed to overcome the difficulty of procuring it by widening the entrances of the caves, and making roads expressly for its conveyance. The supply of Guano is estimated to last for only sixty or seventy years, at the present rate of consumption;

Supply of Guano

tion; but, it is believed, that, on a further exploration, more deposits will yet be discovered.

Gutta-Percha and Caoutchouc

GUTTA-PERCHA and CAOUTCHOUC have nearly the same elementary constitution; and, commercially, there is little distinction made between them. The substance yielded, especially by the former, is a new product, and an excellent acquisition, both for science and industry. The gigantic Gutta-Percha tree is abundant in the Indian Archipelago, Borneo, Sumatra, &c.; but, till within a few years, the valuable substance it supplies, had not attracted the attention either of the traveller or the botanist. The Royal Society of London awarded its gold medal to the discoverer of its properties. Caoutchouc is the milky juice of several kinds of trees grown in tropical regions; and is chiefly imported from Para, in Brazil.

Ice Trade

Ice and Snow, from the caverns of Vesuvius and Etna, have long been articles of trade in South Italy, and the large demands of Paris have been mostly supplied from Norway; but it was only in 1833 that the Ice trade of North America was extended to India. Cut into blocks about twelve inches square, and packed in sawdust, Ice is, to the amount of 12,000 tons a year, conveyed, with very little loss, and in a state of beautiful transparency, to Calcutta, where it is stored in an immense warehouse for sale. So rapidly has the trade increased, that, in 1858, 160,000 tons were exported from Boston, besides 20,000 or 30,000 tons from New York; employing hundreds of ships in the transport.

Petroleum

Petroleum, Rock Oil, or Barbados Tar, is a viscous liquid, or bituminous oil, which springs from the soil in the Isle of Barbados, Persia, Bakou (near the Caspian Sea), Rangoon,

goon, North America, and other countries. The oil has probably been generated, by some long process of nature, from the remains of marine animals and plants. It oozes from limestone cliffs, or rises from the soil in natural or artificial wells, at a high temperature; and has long been known in the vast palæozoic basin of North America, where it is found over a region extending from Gaspé, in Canada East, to Texas. In 1844, it was discovered in Canada West; but it was only in 1857 that it was sought after as an article of commerce; when a company was formed and lands purchased. The distillation of Asphalt, formerly practised, was abandoned; wells were sunk, from which, in 1860, from 600 to 800 gallons of oil per diem were procured. It was, at the same time, worked in Pennsylvania and other States, and the "oil diggings" of the North attracted crowds similar to those who rushed

Rock Oil

Oil Wells

rushed to the gold diggings of the West. In 1861, upwards of 1000 oil wells were in active operation in North America; and the oil, besides being largely used in the United States, is exported to Europe.

Conclusion.

Such is a rapid enumeration of some of the more important commodities which an All-bountiful Creator has treasured up for the use and enjoyment of his creatures; and such, in rough outline, the field on which they are displayed. The history of commercial enterprise explains the means man has adopted to avail himself of the rich gift, to serve himself heir to the wealth of a world. The true end of commerce is not, as is often stated, "to "buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest "market possible," which is rather the object of speculation; but, by means of exchange, to supply

Object of Commerce

supply out of the superabundance of one country what is wanted by another, for the benefit of both.

Barter

Commerce may be said to be born with man; exchange is everywhere the rule among the rudest savages as among the most civilized states. In the barbarous ages, men exchanged cattle for every kind of goods; afterwards salt in Abyssinia, shells in Africa and India, grains of cacao in Mexico; and, more recently, hides, in Russia, were the usual media of commerce and exchange. The first mention of exchange, by means of the precious metals, occurs in that touching picture of primitive life, when Abraham purchased of Ephron, the son of Zohar, the cave of the field of Machpelah, "in which "to bury his dead out of his sight," and for which he paid 400 shekels of silver, current money with the merchant. Egypt is prominent among the commercial countries mentioned in the

the Bible. From the fertile basin of the Nile, corn was at all times transported and paid for in silver by the purchaser. An active trade was carried on by sea between Egypt and Tyre, and overland between Babylon and the cities of Syria; but there was no foreign commerce among the Hebrews till the time of Solomon, who imported linen yarn, horses, and chariots, from the Egyptians, and organized an extensive trade with the countries on the shores of the Indian Ocean.

Trade of Egypt

The Phœnicians, so celebrated in the annals of commerce, were also renowned for their manufacturing industry. Tyre, whose "merchants were princes," was the most famous mart of antiquity; and it was under her rulers that was formed the confederation of Phœnician cities, which has been called the "Hanseatic League of the Antients." Rome inherited the commercial power of Carthage, and

Tyre

Modern Trade

and Marseilles soon became her rival. Under the Emperors, Alexandria was the great entrepôt of the Mediterranean, of Asia, and of Africa. At the beginning of the eleventh century, Venice and Genoa entered the field, and the commerce of Europe passed into their hands. On their decadence, arose the trade of Portugal, with India in the fifteenth, that of Spain with America in the sixteenth, and, finally, that of Holland and England in the seventeenth century.

So late was England in entering on the career of commerce, that, in the reign of Edward II. (1320), all foreign commodities were brought to our shores by the Lombards and the Hanseatic merchants.

Up till this time Great Britain shewed no sign of the brilliant career that was in reserve for her; but, in the vigorous reign of Elizabeth, which may be called the romantic

mantic age of commerce, the spirit of adventure was revived by the voyages of Drake, Raleigh, Hawkins, and Cavendish. The East India Company was chartered in 1600; and colonies were established in North America in the reign of James I. (1603-25). The career of British commerce, during the latter part of the eighteenth century, was checked by the American war, and the war with France, Spain, and Holland, only to revive, with increased power, at the beginning of the nineteenth. Carthage represents the purely mercantile industry of antiquity, and offers a remarkable analogy with England, which, in the words of a recent French writer, is "the very incarna- "tion of commerce in modern times." Like Britain, Carthage grew rapidly in riches, in territory, and in influence. Commerce was its vivifying principle; but war and conquest were indispensable to its security and its progress.

Rise of Trade in Britain

Its Progress

gress. The extent and power of the British Empire has no parallel in the history of nations. With the "mariners of England," you may land, unchallenged, on every shore. "The conquests of her merchants in the dis- "tant East," says Dupin, "commence where "those of Alexander terminated;" and "her "ships now cover every sea, laden with the "treasures of the universe, bartered for those "of the industry of the United Kingdom."

Extent

In an eloquent eulogium on our historian Hallam, M. Mignet says, "he taught the "world how a people, apparently predestinated "to an inferior place among nations, raised it- "self so high by the excellency of its insti- "tutions; became the most opulent in be- "coming the most free, the ablest in being "the best governed; overcame the smallness "of its area by the greatness of its power; "dominated the ocean by its shipping; spread "its

" its products over continents, and covered the " earth with its establishments, already spanned " by its ambition." The extent to which we are indebted to steam navigation for the development of our commercial relations is incalculable. " What an efficacious agent," observes M. Vidalin, " has not British genius " found in those diligent steamers which cause " commercial life to flow towards the United " Kingdom, as the veins cause the blood to " flow to the heart."

Steam Navigation

Many now present may remember the discussions which took place regarding the possibility of crossing the Atlantic by steam only, when, in 1836, a well-known author asserted " that, to go to New York direct was as diffi- " cult as to go to the moon:" how the difficulty was solved, and the philosopher confounded, by the actual arrival at New York of the *Great Western* on the 17th June 1838, after

after a passage of fifteen days from Bristol, and of the *Sirius* from Cork, in seventeen days, both by the aid of steam alone.

It is steam which, by affording rapid communication with the auriferous regions, gives to Britain the market of the precious metals; and, but for its agency in the conveyance of troops, the late rebellion in India might have had a very different termination. It is satisfactory to know, that the merit of this application of steam power is now admitted to belong to countrymen of our own. "The "public (says the *Athenæum*, No. 1108), are "indebted for the invention of steam naviga- "tion, not to Bell and Fulton, as generally "believed, but to the united efforts of three "Scotchmen, Miller, Taylor, and Symington, "who began their experiments in 1788, and "continued them into the present century. "Bell and Fulton both saw their boats and "followed

Its importance

" followed their construction, the one on the " Clyde, and the other on the Hudson."

Anticipated Progress of Man

The subject we have been thus hastily considering is well fitted to enlarge our conceptions of the power, wisdom, and benevolence of God, and to inspire us with the noblest hopes and aspirations for the future destiny of our race, enabling us to look with confidence for the time when men everywhere, recognising His hand in the creation and conduct of this wondrous orb, will " praise Him for " His goodness to the children of men." We have the authority of Livingstone for the opinion, that, in the realization of this future, the merchant should be the pioneer of the missionary, and that commerce, with its humanizing influences, ought to precede religion in the work of civilization. The merchant adventurer must teach the savage to respect himself, by shewing him that he is possessed of faculties which,

Duty of the Merchant

which, if applied to the arts of peace, will render him a useful and profitable co-labourer with his more enlightened fellow; assuring him, at the same time, by his actions, that he longs for the dawning of that happy day when the only fetters required to bind humanity will be the "cords of love," and when, without distinction of colour or race, "man to man the "warld o'er shall brithers be for a' that."


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HISTORICAL NOTES

AS TO THE

MERCHANT COMPANY OF EDINBURGH



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HISTORICAL NOTES

AS TO THE

MERCHANT COMPANY OF EDINBURGH.

THE history of the first Merchants of Edinburgh, like the early history of the city itself, is veiled in obscurity. A Guild or Fraternity of Merchants existed in Edinburgh, as in other places, for a very long period anterior to the incorporation of the Merchant Company in 1681. The Dean or Master of that Fraternity was invested with a jurisdiction in all causes betwixt Merchant and Merchant, similar to that then exercised in France and Flanders, and especially in Paris, Rouen, Bordeaux,

The Guild

Bordeaux, and Rochelle. The "Guild or Merchants" were wont to contribute annually to the support of the Society with which they were connected, and the honours of the burgh fell chiefly to them; the Craftsmen, (single Burgesses), not being entitled to equal privileges with the Merchants. As was to be expected, this distinction betwixt Merchants and Craftsmen (these being the *two* classes into which the "hail town and commonweil" were divided—the Members of the College of Justice forming no portion of the "community") gave rise to many jealousies, and also to some protracted litigations. At last, in 1583, these two classes agreed to refer their differences to King James VI. and others. The decreet arbitral following on this agreement, bears the appearance, at Holyrood House, of, on the one part, the Commissioners for the "hail Merchants, indwellers of the said burgh;" and on the other, the "Commissioners for the hail Craftsmen, indwellers of the said burgh," viz., "the Chirurgeans, Hammermen, Tailyeours, Skinners, Goldsmiths, Baxters [Bakers,] Furriers, Wrights, Maissons, Fleshers, Cordiners, Websters [Weavers], Wakers* and Bonnet Makers;" *anent* "the removing of all questions, differences, and controversies, which are or have been betwixt the said Merchants and Craftsmen." The decree enacts, amongst other rules, that "the Magistrates and Officemen,

Merchants and Craftsmen

James VI.

* One of the qualifications, by the way, for "entering on business" in this craft, was being '*worth three pairs of sheers!*'

Officemen, such as Provost, Baillies, Dean of Gild, and Treasaurer, to be in all tyme coming, of the estait and calling of Merchants, conform to the Acts of Parliment; and gif ony Craftsman exerceand merchandise, sall, for his good qualities, be promovit thereto, in that caise, he sall leive his craft, and not occupy the same be himself, nor his servants, during the time of his office, and sall not return thereto at any tyme thereafter quhill he obtain special license of the Provost, Baillies, and Councel to that effect."

Provost, &c., to be Merchants

It was at this period that an important step was taken to break down, to some extent, the distinction betwixt the Merchants and the Trades, as it is also declared in the same decree, "that toward [ending] the lang controversies for the Gildrie, it is finally, with common consent, appoyntit, agreit, and concludit, that als weill Craftsmen as Merchants, sall be received and admitted Gild-brether, and the ane not to be refusit nor secludit therefra mair nor the uther, they being Burgesses of the burgh, als meit and qualified thairafore; and that Gild-brether to have liberty to use merchandize."

The privileges of the Gildrie were thus become common to some extent to the Crafts as well as the Merchants; and, according to one account, it was owing to this, that the Merchants resolved to form themselves into a distinct corporation, and obtained, in 1681, a Charter for themselves, under the name of *The Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh*. The more probable reason, and certainly the main one, for their being

Merchant Company

being incorporated, was that stated in the Charter itself, viz., that the erecting of the Merchants therein described, "in a Company, may be a very effectual mean for improving of their trade and preventing all abuses therein; and especially for enabling them to prosecute the design of manufactories, and carrying on so good and great a work." The Charter incorporates into a Company, the whole then "merchants, sellers, or importers of cloths, stuffs, or other merchandise, for the apparel or wear of the bodies of men and women, Burgesses and Guild Brethren of the said burgh, for themselves and successors in their said trade in all time coming;" and declares that "none shall have liberty to exercise the trade of the Company within the City of Edinburgh or privileges [*i.e.*, suburbs] thereof, unless they join the Company."

1696

There is a very early account of the Company, in the Minutes dated 30th March 1696; and as it is very brief, and is, curiously enough, the only formal statement of the history of the Merchant Company which has hitherto been written, we extract it nearly entire:—

Rise and Progress of Company

"*The Rise and Progresse of the Merchant Company to this day* (1 *June* 1696), *drawn and presented by Bailzie Cuninghame, was twice read, unanimouslie approven, and appointed to be recorded; whereof the tenor follows:*

"The practice and long experience of all well-governed trading cities in being divyded, and joined in Companies, doth sufficientlie demonstrat the great advantages thereof, whereby their unitie, order, trades, and charitie,

charitie, are secured and advanced, And, of all nations, Scotland was most defective therein: Wherefore King James VI., understanding how much the order, trade, and peace of the Citie of London was lodged in the Companies thereof, he wished his antient Citie of Edinburgh might fall on such methods. And for that, and King Charles I., in anno 1634, considering what a numerous corporation the Merchants of Edinburgh were, did at large write to the Town Councill, offering great and singular priviledges to such of them as would join in Companies. And His Majestie being zealous for the designe, did, in anno 1636, renew his desire to the town, that the Merchants should enter themselves in Companies, as is evident by the Councill Records. Which happy proposall (by evill times) never proved effectuall untill the year 1658, Sir James Stuart,* then Provost of Edinburgh, with some other Merchants, made purchasse of a meeting place for carying on ane Company. But the circumstance of those times did also frustrat their laudable undertaking. And thereafter, in anno 1680, it is again proposed and assayed that Merchants should enter in severall Companies. Whereupon two Companies (though not designed) were happly formed and constitut, viz., the Companie of Wine Merchants, and Merchant Retailers, who both procured patents from the King, which were confirmed by the Councill, and that for the Retailers, ratified also in Parliament, containing great priviledges to the said Company."

James VI. desires formation of Merchant Companies

Also Charles I.

Sir James Stuart

As it will explain much that is written in the following pages, we give here a copy of this original Charter:—

ROYAL

* James Stuart was a conspicuous actor, on the popular side, in the affairs of Scotland during the years of the civil wars. . . . He was Provost of Edinburgh in the trying time when it was invested, and at length taken possession of by the troops of Cromwell. He survived the Restoration, and was a sufferer under Charles II.'s rule, but nevertheless, left considerable realized wealth to his descendants, the Stuarts, Baronets of Coltness. His son was Lord Advocate under King William and Queen Anne; and the grandson of that personage wrote the first systematic work on political economy which appeared in this country.—Vide *Edinburgh Merchants and Merchandize in Old Times*. By Robert Chambers.

ROYAL CHARTER, *by Charles II., incorporating Company, dated* 1681, *and ratified in Parliament.*

Reasons for granting Charter

Charles, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, To all and sundry to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Be it known, That We, considering how necessary it is for the flourishing of Trade, especially after the late regulation made therein, That according to the policy and good example of other places, Companies be erected in the several branches thereof, And that the Merchants, importers, or sellers of cloths, stuffs, or other merchandise for the apparel and wear of the bodies of men and women within the City of Edinburgh, have not only a considerable interest in Trade, do pay a great part of His Majesty's Customs, and are liable to greater Imposts and Stents than any other Trade or Incorporation within the said City, but that the erecting of them in a Company may be a very effectual mean for improving of their Trade, and preventing all abuses therein, and especially for the better enabling them to prosecute the design of manufactories, and carrying on so good and great a work: Therefore,

Incorporation of Company

His Majesty, of his certain knowledge and proper motive, By virtue of his Princely Power and Royal Prerogative, Creates, Incorporates, and Erects the haill present Merchants, sellers, or importers of cloths, stuffs, or other merchandise, for the apparel or wear of the bodies of men and women, Burgesses and Guild Brethren of the said Burgh, for themselves and successors in their said Trade, in all time coming, in a Society and Company to be designed The Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh, Giving and Granting unto them, likeas His Majesty, by the tenor hereof, gives and grants to the said Company and their successors, his express power, warrant, and commission, to enrol and matriculate themselves, and to meet, convene, and assemble, at all times, and in all places needful and convenient, within the said City, Beginning the first Meeting on the first day of December next to come;

Office-bearers

and being so met and assembled, to nominate and elect by plurality of voices, a Master, with twelve Assistants, whereof seven are to be a quorum,

CHARTER

quorum, with Treasurer, Clerk, and Officer, from time to time, as effeirs: the said Master and Assistants being all actual Merchants exercising the said Trade, and to continue in the said offices until the first Monday of September, Sixteen hundred and Eighty-two; And there, upon the said day, if lawful, and failing thereof, the next lawful day thereafter, of new to nominate and elect in like manner, a Master, Assistants, and Treasurer, in place of the former for the year ensuing, and so forth from year to year, in all time coming, And the Clerk and Officer to continue during pleasure: With power to the said Company, and their said Master and Assistants, for their better conveniency and meeting, to purchase for themselves, have, hold, and enjoy, a public Hall and other houses necessary within the said City: And His Majesty hath authorised, and hereby authorises and empowers the said Company and their successors, to make by plurality of voices, such rules and orders amongst themselves, for the better regulating of their Trade, and keeping good order, as may conduce to the good and utility of the said Society, the same rules and orders being always agreeable to and consistent with the public laws of the Kingdom of Scotland, and the rights, privileges, liberties, customs, and statutes of the said City: Providing always, likeas it is hereby specially provided, That the foresaid rules and orders be always first presented to and approven of by the ordinar Council of the said Burgh, before they take effect or can be of any force: With power to the said Master and his Assistants to cause observe, and be put in execution, all acts and statutes concerning the said Trade, and to punish offenders by fining or any other way, the said fine not exceeding Twenty Pounds Scots for one transgression, and the concurrence of the Magistrates of the said City being always had to the execution of their sentence, by poinding or otherwise, as accords: And His Majesty hereby declares and ordains, that hereafter none shall have liberty to exerce the said Trade within the said City or privileges thereof, until first they enter themselves Members of the said Society, and pay the Entry and Dues after mentioned. Likeas His Majesty hereby declares that all persons being Burgesses and Guild Brethren

Master and Assistants to be actual Merchants exercising said trade

Hall

Rules

May enforce Rules

Who bound to enter Company

CHARTER

Entry Money

Quarter Dues

Contributions

Disposal of Funds

Members may belong to other Corporations

Investments

Brethren of the said Burgh, and purposing or going about to exerce the said trade within the same, may enter, and shall be received in the said Company, paying at their entry Six Pounds Scots, with the sum of Six Shillings Scots quarterly, and each quarter of the year, so long as they exerce the said Trade, with power to the said Master and Assistants to exact and uplift the said Entry-money and quarterly payments, as also to exact and uplift from every Apprentice entering to be a Prentice to any Merchant of the said Society, Three Pounds Scots at his said Entry, all which sums are to be paid into the common Treasurer or Master of the Common Box of the said Company: And His Majesty authorises the foresaid Company, and haill Associates thereof, to make such free and voluntary contributions amongst themselves for their Treasurer, to be expended upon their common adoes and concerns, as they and each of themselves think fit, without any imposing or constraining of any particular Member, unless by exacting whatsoever they shall voluntarily promise or consent to bestow, by poinding or any other way, as is fit: Which sums of money and proper stock, to be paid into the Treasurer of the said Company as said is, shall be managed and disbursed by the Master and Assistants for the good and utility of the said Company, and for the relief and supply of such of their Members as may happen to fail and decay, and of their indigent Widows and Orphans; the said Master and Assistants being always accomptable to the body of the said Company for their administration: And His Majesty hereby declares that this present erection of the said Merchants in a Company as said is, shall be no hinderance to them, or any of them, or their successors, to be Members of any other Merchant Company or Incorporation that is or shall be hereafter erected at their pleasure: And Lastly, His Majesty hereby capacitates, enables, and empowers the foresaid Company to purchase lands, houses, annual-rents, and heritages, borrow and lend money, and to do all other acts of common commerce as freely as is permitted and allowed to any other Company of the like nature: Declaring, likeas His Majesty hereby Declares, that the deed being first done and consented to by the said Company or plurality thereof, and

and act of the Company made and recorded thereupon, the sign and subscription of the Master, with seven of his Assistants, and of the Clerk of the said Company jointly, shall be a sufficient assurance and certification of the said deed and consent of the whole Company: And also, His Majesty allows the said Company, and their said Master and Assistants, to have and use a common seal in such cases wherein the same shall be requisite, Declaring the cognisance of the said Company to be engraven upon the said Seal, and used upon all their occasions, shall be such as His Majesty's Lyon King-at-Arms shall appoint as suitable to the said Society. It is hereby declared, that the rights and privileges of the several Trades of the said Burgh of Edinburgh is hereby reserved to them as accords of the Law: And His Majesty promises in *verbo principis*, to ratify this present Gift of Erection in this current or the ensuing Parliament of the said Kingdom: In testimony whereof, We have ordered Our Great Seal to be appended hereto, at Our Court of Whitehall, the nineteenth day of the month of October, in the year of our Lord One thousand Six hundred and Eighty-one, and of Our Reign the Thirty-third year: Which Charter and Letters Patent above recited was by an Act passed by the Parliament of Scotland in the year Sixteen hundred and Ninety-three, ratified, approved, and confirmed in the haill heads, articles, tenors, contents, powers, and privileges therein contained, as in and by the said recited Charter or Letters Patent, and Instrument of Ratification thereof, relation being thereunto had, doth and will more fully appear.

CHARTER

Seal

The first meeting of the Company, of which a record is retained, was held in the High Council House, on 1st December 1681, at which Sir James Fleming, Provost of Edinburgh, and eighty-four other Merchants, were present. The above Charter or Patent to the Company, by King Charles II., was read, and ex-Bailie George Drummond, Merchant (afterwards Sir George Drummond

First Meeting

First Office-bearers

Drummond, Lord Provost of Edinburgh), was elected Master, along with the following twelve Assistants and Treasurer:

Ex-Bailie Thomas Douglas.	Mr William Patoun.
Ex-Bailie David Swintoune.	Mr John Duncan.
Mr Robert Blackwood.	Mr James Cleilland.
Mr Duncan M'Intosh.	Mr John Tennent.
Mr James Boyd.	Mr John Hay.
Mr James Grahame.	Mr William Menzies.

Treasurer—Mr Thomas Young.

There appears to have been a General Meeting of the Company on the same day, to sign the record of entrants contained in the Minute Book, as numerous signatures are attached under that date; and on that leaf of this the first regular Minute-Book of the Company, and on the three following leaves, are to be found, in a state of perfect preservation, the signatures of the first Members of the Incorporated Company. Keeping in view the period at which they were written, and looking to the excellent penmanship of nearly all these signatures, it is evident that the Members were men of good education. Many of these family names have a pleasantly familiar sound, even at this date: such as Wm. Menzies, Thomas Young, J. Duncan, Robert Blackwood (afterwards Sir Robert Blackwood, Lord Provost), Ro. Millar, Geo. Mossman, James Fleming (Lord Provost, afterwards Sir James Fleming), Charles Charteris, Thomas Robertson, George Lawsone, George Warrender, ancestor to the Baronets of that name, (subsequently, Sir George Warrender, Lord Provost), James Kirk,

Kirk, Hugh Blair (afterwards Master, grandfather of Blair, the accomplished author of *Sermons* and *Lectures on Belles Lettres*), John Lindsay, Jo. Jollie, Archibald Walker, John Ritchie, J. Russel, and others.

The following are the Names of the first Members of the Company, in the order in which they stand in the Record:

First Members

I.—Signatures on First Page of Record.

George Drummond	Josias Johnstone	John Chatto
Tho. Douglas	Ro. Blackwood	Hellenor Martine, relecke of Robert Dunckane
David Swinton	Jo. Thomson	J. Guthrie
R. Blackwood	W. R. Lumisden	David Stow
Thomas Young	Tho. Gordon	James Flemyeng
Wm. Menzies	Harie Andersone	J. Hamilton
Dn. M'Intosh	Ja. Cleland	Will. Stevenson
Jo. Hay	G. H. Reid	Jno. Kennedy
J. Duncan	Ja. Broadfoott	Magnus Primer
Ja. Boyd	Ro. Millar	Cha. Charteris
Thos. Lawrie	Wm. Montgomerie	Ja. Nicolson
W. Cleland	Ja. Alstoun	James Graham
James Dobie	Archibald Johnstoune	John Marjoribanks
Jo. Littell	John Chanceler	J. Grattoune
Thomas Wyllie	Alexander Brand	John Moore
Ja. M'Clellan	Da. Johnstoun	Alex. Cruikshanks
Geo. Smellum	Wa. Stewart	Ths. Robertson
Pat. Johnstoun	Wm. Young	Geo. Lawsone
Will. Blackwood	John Handisyd	Will. Gordon
A. N. (*this is Alex. Neilsone, Elder, merchant, his marke*)	Da. Montier	J. Anderson
	Geo. Mossman	
	G. Home	

II.—Second Page of Record of Members.

Hugh Blair	An. Tennant	Jo. Jollie
Robert Walwood	Robert Broune	M. Bell
Alexander Laurie	Thomas Fisher	Edward Marjoribanks
Alexr. Black	John Lindsay	And. Neill

George

First Signatures

George Warrender
Geo. Clark
Geo. Wedderburne
Joseph Young
Ja. Kirk
Geo. Craighead
Thomas Crichton
James Bowden
W. Cuninghame
Jo. Hunter
A. Blair
D. Falconer
James Loch
Robert Baird
Hugh Campbell
G. Drummond
Arch. Walker
Ja. Row
Andrew Irvine
W. Neilsone
Rob. Lauder
Stephen Bromfield
John Wallace
James Simsone
John (J. T.) *Thomeson's mark, Elder*
Ja. Reid
David Neish
William Cock
Georg Bell
Alex. Campbell
Alx. Lesells
Thomas Ker
John Tennent
James Clerk
Ha. Elphunstone
Jo. Drummond
James Tait
Laurence Donaldsone
Jo. Brown
John Hall
George Funnestowne
John Corsbie
Rot. Gibson
John Henderson
William Corsaw
J. Arbuckelle
John Miller
James Newall
Jo. Marshall
Ja. Smeton
Geo. M'Kenzie
Rob. Campbell
Jon. Richie
Georg Balfour
Hugh Blackie
John Clerk
John Cauve
Jo. Nasmyth
David Estoun
James Fergus
Ja. Gib
James Aitkine
Alexander Chanceler
Da. Allan
John Armstrong
Tho. Young

In this same record are to be seen the signatures of every Member of the Company to the present day, a record which is thus a singularly interesting one, as also valuable in questions of ancestry. The late Mr James Jollie, W.S., Senior Clerk, prepared and presented to the Company, in 1839, in the 55th year of his Clerkship, an alphabetical list of the whole Members of the Company. This list, brought down to the present day, is printed in the Appendix. Amongst these and the later names added to the list, will be found almost all the leading men of Edinburgh and Leith for nearly two centuries; not a few of whom were connected with the nobility

List of Members

bility and highest families in the land. The consequence is, that now, as formerly, Membership in the Merchant Company is, as a rule, a very good test of high respectability; and while many of the principal office-bearers of the Company, such as the Masters and Treasurers, have afterwards become Lord Provosts of the city, and some of them the representatives of the city in Parliament, the office-bearers, generally, have, with very few exceptions, been selected from amongst the foremost business men in Edinburgh.

Early Meetings

The earlier meetings of the Company were very numerously attended; but as the absentees were fined, and their goods poinded for the penalties, their strict attention was to be expected. The Minutes commence generally with the words, "Absentees unlawed." The meetings of the Master and Assistants were for sometime held weekly, on Tuesday, at eight o'clock in the morning; and these gentlemen managed the affairs so energetically, that, at the end of the fourth year, nearly 200 Merchants had joined the Company Great trouble was taken to secure that the members should be godly, well-conducted persons; and a Prayer was composed by the Very Rev. William Annand, Dean of Edinburgh, to be "said by ye Clerk" at the Meetings. We extract this Prayer as it stands in the Minutes of 28th August 1682.

Prayer

Prayer compiled by the Dean of Edinburgh, to be read at the Meetings of the Company, 1682.

"Almighty and Eternal God: Thy servants now assembled implore

plore, according to Thy precious promises, the pardon of all our offences, and Thy Holy Spirit to deliver us from falling into the snares of sin and Satan: Keep us O Lord in peace, purity, brotherly love and concord, by removing pride, prejudice, passion, covetousness, and whatever may offend Thy Blessed Majesty. Bless our King and all the Royal Family, the Magistrates, and all the Incorporations of this City; the Master and all the Members of this Society, that we may have fellowship with Thee. The sea is Thine, and Thy hands formed the dry land: prosper us in our present undertaking with the bounties of both; above all, with the bounties of Thy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*"

Dean Annand

The Dean referred to was a noted man of his time, and was "the clergyman officially appointed to attend the unfortunate Earl of Argyle on the scaffold." "Ye clerk" did not continue long the duty of repeating the Prayer, as the first rule of the Company, made soon afterwards, threw the privilege, in a great majority of cases, on the Master; and, after some years, the opening of the meetings with prayer fell into disuse.

The earliest Rules of the Company are engrossed in the Minutes of the General Meeting of the Company on 22nd November 1682. A Committee had been previously appointed to wait upon the Magistrates for a "ratification of certain Rules of the Company or 'Society,' and for a general concurrence to any of their officers in the execution of the acts of the Company against Unfreemen, whether they are altogether strangers or whether they have right to their freedom by their parents' marriages, or apprenticeships, not being actually entered Burgesses and Gild Brother of this burgh." These Rules were so ratified

ratified under the amendment to be afterwards mentioned. We give in *extenso* these now curious Rules, as shewing the general features of the Company at that early date:

RULES OF THE COMPANY.

Prayer—Conduct of Members.

First Rules

"*Firstly*, That at every General Meeting of the Company, and at every Meeting of the Master and Assistants, the Master or Clerk shall say prayers; and that the Company, or Master and Assistants, if they think fit, may call one of the Ministers of Edinburgh to that purpose.

"*Secondly*, That no openly profane person, a common and ordinar swearer, drunkard, or whoorer, be admitted to bear any office in the said Society; and that the assertion of any three or four, or more, of the Company at the election, shall be a sufficient ground to debar any such nominat from being chosen, without any further probation.

"*Thirdly*, That for every rash swearing or cursing, obscene or baudy expression, spoken by any Member in the publick or private meeting of the Society, shall pay Six Shillings Scots, to the poor, for the first fault, and Twelve Shillings thereafter.

Membership.

"*Fourthly*, That none hereafter shall be admitted into the Incorporation but such as are Burgesses and Gild Brethren in Edinburgh, at the least, Burgesses.

Master and Assistants, and mode of Election.

"*Fifthly*, That the Master and Assistants be chosen of new every year. But to the effect, there may be some of the Assistants always upon the Council, that they may be acquaint in the affairs of the Society, the Company may choose for the succeeding year some of the Assistants of the year preceding, not exceeding the number of *three*, but are not to continue longer tyme than these two years together.

"*Sixthly*, That, upon the last Monday of August, a leet be made of the

First Rules

the whole Company for Master and new Assistants, and the leet to consist of three for Master, out of the Assistants, thirty-six for Assistants, and three for Treasurer, of such persons of the whole Company as the Company shall think most fit, and copies to be given thereof by the Clerk to such as shall require it.

" *Seventhly*, That, upon the first Monday of September being the day of election, after saying of prayers, the present Master cause read the whole leet, that the Company know there has been no alteration made of the leet, or if any happen to be, it may be objected against by any of the Company, and upon instant probation altered.

" *Eighthly*, That, after prayers on the day of election, the first thing to be done by the Clerk is to read over the roll of such as are entered in the Company, and pay their quarterly dues, and mark those present who only are to vote in the election, and all others to be removed.

" *Ninthly*, That those in the leet for Master, and Assistants, and Treasurer, remove after they have given their votes.

" *Tenthly*, The election being thus regularly and orderly finished, the former Master is to cause the Clerk read over the new elected persons, Members, and to take the oath *de fideli* of such as are present. And in case of the absence of the new elected Master, there being seven of the new elected Assistants present, they nominate a Preses to preside and appoint the next meeting; but if seven, which is a quorum, be not present, the former Master is to do it.

" *Eleventhly*, That if any elected to be Master shall refuse to accept of his office, he shall be obliged to pay to the box Fifty Pounds Scots; or if the Treasurer or any of the Assistants refuse, each one of them Fifty Merks; besides, that the persons so elected and refusing, shall not be capable to be elected for any office in the Society for three years thereafter.

" *Here follow the Rules to be observed by the Master, Assistants, Treasurer, Clerk, and Officer:*

Meetings.

First Rules regulating Office-bearers

" *First*, That, upon the first Meeting after the election, the Rules and Orders of the Society be read over by them; and such of them as have not taken the oath *de fideli*, then take it.

" *Secondly*, That, in the Master's absence, the quorum of the Assistants may chuse one of their number to preside.

" *Thirdly*, That, at every Meeting, they appoint the time of the next, with power to the Master and three Assistants, or eight Assistants, without the Master, to call a Meeting before the ordinary diet, in case of any emergent occasion.

" *Fourthly*, That upon every absence from a Meeting appointed twelve hours before, of any of the Members, if in health, or in town, the Master or Clerk shall pay Six Shillings Scots, each time. Each Assistant or Treasurer, Four Shillings Scots, and the Officer, what the Meeting shall judge fit. And for every quarter of an hour after the hour of meeting appointed, Twelve Pennies Scots. Every Member of the Society shall pay for their absence from the General Meeting, Four Shillings Scots, and for sero, Twelve Pennies Scots; for which fines, the Officer shall poind in case of not payment.

Obtaining New Members, &c.

" *Fifthly*, That the Masters and Assistants divide themselves in their bounds, to procure an exact list of all their trade in the Merchant's employment, that such as are Unfreemen may be proceeded against with all diligence and without delay, connivance, or tolerance, and that such as are Freemen unentered, may be compelled to enter and pay their quarterly dues, conform to the Patent.

" *Sixthly*, That any information given by any of the Society, and offered to be proven against any Unfreeman trading in the city or suburbs, or Burgesses buying from Unfreemen, be presently followed furth and

First Rules

and pursued; or any other legal and just complaints given in by any of the Company.

Quarter Dues.

" *Seventhly*, That every quarter day a list be given into the Treasurer of the Members of the Society, that he may exact the quarterly payments, and if they fail, he may cause the Officer poind therefor; and if that any that are entered Members of the Society do not actually trade and refuse to pay their quarterly payments, two terms being run and the third unpaid, he is not to have vote in the General Meeting.

" *Eighthly*, That at the next General Meeting every Member pay in his quarterly dues for the time past, and thereafter at two General Meetings of the year, which is to be appointed for that effect, and that such as do not pay at these Meetings be poinded for the double by the Officer.

Motions.

" *Ninthly*, That any overtures for the good of the Society, or rules, or orders thought fit to be observed by them, proceeding either from Master or Assistants, or any person of the Society, shall be first maturely considered by the Master and Assistants, and unanimously agreed to by them, or major part of them, and which is not to pass at the first General Meeting, but be delayed until a second General Meeting, and then to be determined by plurality of votes.

Business above £5.

" *Tenthly*, Before any business of consequence that may cost the Society above Five Pounds sterling, shall be undertaken, a General Meeting is to be called and their consent by plurality of votes obtained for prosecution thereof; and if the Master and Assistants shall do in the contrary, it shall be upon their own charge; and if by the General Meeting, it shall be judged to be to their damage, what they have done shall be cancelled and annulled, and the charges not allowed; and the Treasurer shall not be obliged to answer or pay any sum above Five Pounds

Pounds sterling by any order from the Master and Assistants, except by an act passed in the General Meeting. First Rules

Treasurer's Accounts.

"*Eleventhly*, The Treasurer's accounts are to be examined the first Monday of October, by a Committee to be appointed by the General Meeting, consisting of twelve, whereof eight are to be chosen out of the Company, who are in no office, two of the old and two of the new Assistants, whereof any seven is to be a quorum, and the Treasurer's books are to lie in the Clerk's hands, to be seen and perused by any of the Company who shall desire the same, ten days before the accounts be brought in to be approven by a General Meeting.

RATIFICATION AND AMENDMENT

"The which Rules and Orders particularly above-mentioned, the Council ratifies and approves, and enterpones their authority thereto, and ordains the same to stand in full force and vigour in all time coming, with this express provision, declaration, and amendment, that as to the point of the foresaid general concurrence granted by the Council to the said Incorporation and Society of Merchants, the same shall be restricted allenarly as to the seizure and apprehending of Unfreemen who are not actually entered Burgess and Gild Brethren of Edinburgh; and that the said general concurrence shall not extend any further. As, likewise, with this provision and amendment, that in case the said Incorporation shall admit and receive, or suffer any persons to sit and vote amongst them who is not previously entered Burgess and 'Gild' Brother of this burgh, in case they trade in foreign commodities, or if they trade only in inland commodities, that they be simple 'Burgess,' or if that they be Burgess' daughters, that they have licence from the Council of Edinburgh, or relicts of Freemen Burgesses, that then the said Incorporation have, by the acceptation hereof, expressly bound and obliged, that if they shall receive or enter any person as said is Members of their Incorporation, without first they be actually entered

entered Burgess and Freemen of this burgh, and can produce their Burgess tickets, then to pay to the Dean of Gild of Edinburgh, for the time, the sum of One Hundred Pounds Scots, for every such failure for the use of the town."

Lady Members

As regards the Lady Merchants referred to in the above ratification, not a few of them entered the Company; and, accordingly, in the Record we find such entries as the following:

"*Agness Alstone*, by virtue of a license from the Dean of Gild, dated 13 Jan. 1683, ye 21 of Oct. 1684 entered."

"*Elizabeth Bennet*, shopkeeper, in the Change, *ed null* Burgess: Entered ye 6 Jan. 1685, and paid her dues."

"*Sarah Cockburn*, spouse of Robert Kyle."

The wives of Members sometimes paid the entry money; and at a General Meeting on 27th August 1694, it is reported that a certain Burgess and Guild Brother had subscribed the "book, his wife having paid the entry-money."

Resolve to purchase a Hall

Hitherto the Company had met in the "High Council House;" but the Members having (Minute 16th March 1691) become "convinced that great prejudice had arisen to the Society by the want of a public hall or house for carrying all Unfreemen's goods to, there to lie and remain until sold to Freemen of the said city; for the want whereof, Unfreemen's goods are kept in private houses, and sold clandestinely every day;" therefore, the Master and Assistants "pitched upon the Great Lodging, Yard, and waste ground, lying in the Cowgate, which belonged to Andrew Crawford, Sheriff-Clerk of Linlithgow."

Reasons for doing so

Linlithgow." The rental of this property was then seven hundred pounds Scots, and the price paid for it was 12,100 merks. This "Great Lodging" had a very aristocratic history; and as it was one of the most celebrated buildings in the Old Town, and, apart from this, must be of special interest to the Members, as the Merchant Hall in the olden time, we shall particularly refer to it.

Price

This Property of historical celebrity

It stood on the ground on which the southern piers of George IV. Bridge now rest. The ground was, we find from the old title-deeds, first granted by James, King of Scotland, to John, Lord Bothwell, in 1485. It passed rapidly through other hands, and in 1498, the King, who had re-acquired it by the summary mode of revoking all prior donations, granted it to John Ramsay, Knight. In 1543, it passed to Sir John Ramsay's son, William Ramsay of Balmain. David Ramsay of Balmain afterwards (1553) acquired it as heir of his father, and, in 1562, granted a charter to David M'Gill, advocate. In 1582, David and his spouse, Isabel Cunningham, were infeft in it. On 5th May 1586, David, now the King's Advocate, obtained a license from King James, under his Privy Seal, for raising the lodging and bringing the same out upon the street free of purprision. In 1586, David gave the property to his son John, reserving, however, right to reclaim it on payment of a crown of gold. He exercised this right against his young son in 1592, after going through various necessary ceremonies, amongst others, granting a Procuratory

Former Proprietors of it

tory of Resignation to his other son Alexander, to pass to St Giles's Kirk and redeem the said lodging from John, by payment or consignation of a crown of gold, and by obtaining a Decreet of Redemption from the Lords of Session, on 12th August 1592. In 1603, David M'Gill of Cranston-Riddell, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, was infeft in it and in the patronage of St Eloy situate within the parish kirk of St Giles, as heir of his father, the said David M'Gill, his Majesty's Advocate. On 17th July 1619, James M'Gill of Cranston-Riddell, afterwards Viscount of Oxford, father to Robert Viscount of Oxford, acquired it as heir to his brother David. This Robert Viscount of Oxford, got it from his father in 1656, and, in 1683, conveyed it, along with the right of patronage of the chaplainary of the altar of "St Elegens the Confessor," to Andrew Crawford, Sheriff-Clerk of Linlithgow, for the sum of 14,000 merks. In 1691, the Merchant Company acquired the property, with the exception of the patronage of St Eloy. The Disposition by Mr Crawford was granted in favour of Robert Blackwood, then Master, George Warrender, then Treasurer, and George Jollie, James Ritchie, and the other then Assistants, and their successors in office, for the use and behoof of the Company. The property is described as—

"All and haill the said Great Lodging or Tenement of land sometime pertaining to David Ramsay of Balmain, and annalized by him to the deceased Mr David M'Gill of Cranston, lying in the burgh of Edinburgh, upon the south side of the high street of the Cowgate thereof;

Cowgate Property

thereof; bigged and waste, back and fore, under and above, with the yard, well, close, and pertinents thereof, lying betwixt the land sometime pertaining to William Hog and Jean Waldersone, thereafter to the deceased Hugh M'Gill, prebender of Corstorphine, on the east; and the lands pertaining to William Anderson, thereafter to Robert Wilson, and thereafter to the deceased William Speed, baillie, and an certain trance regal leading to the Grayfriar Port, on the west; the arable land or Croft of the Sisters of the Nuns of the Sheyns, on the south; and the high street of the Cowgate, on the north parts: And which tenement and yard is now bounded betwixt the land of John Alexander, watchmaker, and the Hammerman's land, with the King's high way leading to the Society Port, on the west; and certain houses and buildings, whereof the most part belong to the Society for brewing, of the good town of Edinburgh, on the south; the lands of Patrick Chalmers, wright, and the lands of the heirs of the deceased Mr Robert Hamilton, writer to the signet, with the yard belonging to James Smith, candlemaker, on the east; and the high street of the Cowgate of Edinburgh, on the north parts.

Sold in 1829

The greater portion of this interesting tenement and adjoining buildings, then called *Merchant Court*, was sold by the Company by Disposition, dated 10th and 13th February 1829, to the Commissioners appointed under the City Improvement Act, along with the close or area, with the Toofall, Stable, and other houses acquired by the Company in 1737, from a Mungo Graham. The price paid by the Commissioners was £2541, 10*s*. This Disposition contains an obligation to make the titles, as far as related to the subjects, not thereby conveyed, viz., Merchant Street (formerly a bowling green), forthcoming to the Company. The property

Cowgate Property

property was shortly afterwards pulled down by the Commissioners, to make way for George IV. Bridge.

Before taking farewell of the old Merchant Hall, as to which time is so rapidly wearing out all traces, we think it right to refer to some of the historical associations, in addition to those above mentioned, which cluster around it, because, as has been remarked by Wilson in his *Memorials of Edinburgh*, "If we except the old Mint and the venerable chapel of St Magdalene, no other site could have been chosen for the new [George IV.] Bridge where their [the Commissioners] proceedings would have been so destructive. On the ground now occupied by its *southern piers*, formerly stood *Merchant Court*, a large area, inclosed on three sides by antique buildings, in a plain but massive style of architecture, and containing, internally, finely stuccoed ceilings, and handsome paneling, with other indications of former magnificence, suitable to the

Earl of Haddington

mansion of the celebrated Thomas Hamilton, first Earl of Haddington, President of the Court of Session, and Secretary of State for Scotland, the favourite of James VI., and one of the most eminent men of his day. The King facetiously styled

Tam o' the Cowgate

this favourite, *Tam o' the Cowgate*."* "His Majesty had the custom of bestowing ridiculous *sobriquets* on his principal counsellors and courtiers. Thus, he conferred upon that grave and sagacious statesman, John Earl of Mar, the nickname

* *Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Time*, by David Wilson, F.R.S.S.A., vol. ii. p. 107.

Jock o' Sklates

name, *Jock o' Sklater*, probably in allusion to some circumstance which occurred in their young days, when they were the fellow-pupils of Buchanan. On hearing of a meditated alliance between the Haddington and Mar families, his Majesty exclaimed, betwixt jest and earnest, 'The Lord haud a grup o' me! If Tam o' the Cowgate's son marry Jock o' Sklate's daughter, what's to come o' *me?*' The good-natured monarch probably apprehended that so close a union betwixt two of his most subtle statesmen, might make them too much for their master—as hounds are most dangerous when they hunt in couples."*

Interior of Cowgate Property

It is difficult, at this distant date, to obtain as satisfactory a description of the structure and site of the building during its palmy days as we could desire. According to Mr Chambers's account of this "court of old buildings," "the principal room on the second floor, towards the Cowgate, was a very superb one, having a stucco ceiling, divided into square compartments, each of which contained some elegant device."—(*Traditions*, p. 238). Arnot, in his *History of Edinburgh*, does not say anything about it. Nor does Maitland. Robertson is also silent. Wilson's remarks we have quoted. But all accounts are meagre. We find, amongst some old papers, two, dated in 1691, which throw some light on the size and structure of the house. The first is a curious Inventory of Locks and Keys, as follows :—

"INVENTAR

* *Traditions of Edinburgh*, by Robert Chambers, p. 237.

Rooms

"INVENTAR OF LOCKS AND KEYS IN LODGING, 1691.

"*Lowermost Lodging, possessed by James Dunlop, 25 Sept. 1691.*

"Hall door, a fine lock and key and a sneck.
A Pantry door, a new lock and key, and a sneck on a door within.
On ye Lesser Pantry, a new lock.
Wester Chamber, a lock without a key, but a sneck.
1 Closet, not a sneck and key.
Inner Chamber, a lock and key.
In door of our Gallerie, a lock without a key.
2 doors within Little Chamber with 2 blunt (?) snecks.
A lock on their Kitchen Door.

"*In the Lady Castlemilk's Lodging.*

"In the Easter Chamber to the Hall, lock and key.
In the Hall or Mid-room, one sneck.
In the Wester Room, one lock and key.
In the Closet at the end of the transe, one lock and key.
In the New Room to the Gallerie, 1 lock and key.
In the Room at the end of the Gallerie, 1 lock and key.
In the big door to the Wester Room, 1 sneck.
In the Hanging Door in the Stair, 1 lock and key.
In the Kitchen door, 1 lock and key.
In the Outer Room door to the lodging, 1 sneck.
In the Little Closet as they enter to ye Gallerie, 1 lock and key."

The other old paper, of the same date, contains the following statement of the rents of the Cowgate property:—

"*Rental*

Rental

"*Rental of the Lodging at the foot of Libertone's Wynd, as now possest from Whitsunday* 1691.

Patrick Chamers, wright, his Shop .		£33	6 8
Janet Craig		26	13 4
John Couper . .	£38 0 0		
Interest of £40 for reparations	2 8 0		
		40	8 0
William Robertson, a Cellar within the close		10	0 0
William Hopkirk, Kitchen, Chambers, and Cellar		66	13 4
James Dunlop, Under House and 2 Cellars		200	0 0
Lady Castlemilk, whole Over-Lodging, 2 Cellars, and Wardrop, frae Lambas to Whitsunday . . .		200	0 0
Mr Dunlop has promised 50 merks to the Company		33	6 8
		£610	8 0"

This Rental, it is curious to notice, is written on the fly-leaf of an old letter, addressed on the outside—

"For
Mr George Warrender,
Merchant in Edinburgh.
To be left at Thomas Laurie's Shop in the Luckenbooths of Edinburgh."

Mr Warrender

This Mr Warrender was a Treasurer of the Company, and an ancestor of the present Baronet of that name. We give, in the Appendix, an extract from *Burke's Peerage and Baronetage* as to this family.

Many

Excise Office

Many years after the Company acquired the property, they let a portion of it to the Commissioners of Excise. The Commissioners, however, relinquished the right to the property at Martinmas 1773. During their possession, and subsequently, the tenement was called "*The Excise Office.*"

Any reader wishing to visit this old spot, may take his way from George IV. Bridge, down Candlemaker Row, and, passing Merchant Street (formerly the Company's bowling-green), he will reach the Cowgate. Turning to the right, he will soon come to the Magdalene Chapel, "a curious relic of the sixteenth century, belonging to the Corporation of Hammermen, and to which the body of the Earl of Argyll, after his execution, June 30, 1685, was brought down and deposited, to await its removal to the family burying-place at Kilmun." (*Traditions*, p. 238, *note.*) Passing it and the Hammermen's Close, to the east of the Chapel, he comes to some poor looking shops, close upon the spot where stood the old mansion of the Earl of Haddington, afterwards the

Old Hall

Merchant Hall. Here, within the shadow of departed greatness, is nothing save squalor and poverty; and any one of a poetic mind may take his stand there and ask, without a chance of a satisfactory answer, where are all the nobles who used to flit about this spot?—where the noble Earl, the favourite of the King?—where Lady Crammond, Lady Castlemilk, Lord Buchan, Lady Binns, and the other nobility, tenants in the Merchant

chant Company buildings, who oncedwelt here in affluence?—and where the noble old court of buildings, with its "superb" second floor? And he will find that all are gone, and, vision like, left not a wreck behind! We entered a wretched hovel close at hand, and asked where the Merchant Court or Excise Office formerly stood, and received for answer, "I never heard o' it: it canna be in this street"! And so, we suppose, when Macaulay's New Zealander comes to Princes Street to complete his Sketch Book with a view of the ruins of the Register House, he may, in answer to his inquiry as to where it once stood, be told, "I never heard o' it: it canna be in this street." Aristocratic Tenants

Within a stone throw of the southern piers of George IV. Bridge, or area of the old Merchant Hall, resided formerly the Earl of Mar, Lord Minto, Lord Kennet, Lord Covington, Lady Galloway, the latter described as— Cowgate Residenters

> "A Lady well known by her airs,
> Who ne'er goes to revel but after her prayers!"

and many others of the nobility. Near by lived Mrs Syme, whose daughter, shortly after marrying Mr Henry Brougham, removed to 19 St Andrew Square, and gave birth, in 1779, to Henry Brougham, afterwards Lord Chancellor of England. The birth-place of Mackenzie, "The Man of Feeling," was also close at hand. Over the way stood the mansion of Sir Thomas Hope, in which the National Covenant Lord Brougham

Covenant is supposed to have been prepared, and in which, also, the Countess of Mar, daughter of the Duke of Lennox, died in 1644. Up in Brown Square, at a comparatively recent period, lived Miss Jeanie Elliot, the authoress of the charming version of "The Flowers of the Forest," beginning,

Jeanie Elliot

> "I've heard the lilting at our yowe-milking,
> Lassies a-lilting, before the dawn of day;
> But now they are moaning, on ilka green loaning,—
> The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away."

But we need scarcely single out names, as every old building around has its history, its noted tenants, men who were in their day the lights of the city and of the country.

M'Gill

David M'Gill of Cranston-Riddell, King's Advocate to James VI., we have already shewn was proprietor of the old Hall premises, and, according to Wilson's *Memorials* (vol. ii. p. 107), he is said to have died of grief on this Sir Thomas Hamilton (afterwards Earl of Melrose and Haddington), being appointed his colleague.

The Cowgate

The Cowgate of early days was thus very different from the Cowgate of to-day, so far as everything except its name and locality are concerned; and the Merchant Company chose for their place of business one of the most aristocratic quarters of the town, as the Cowgate and the Canongate were then the chief places of residence for the nobility. Indeed, so early as

Cowgate

as about 1530, the Cowgate is thus described by Alexander Alesse:—"Ubi nihil est humile aut rusticum, sed omnia magnifica"! [Where nothing is humble or homely, but everything magnificent!]*

It is, therefore, not at all surprising to find in the Records, that the Merchant Company were in the habit of letting a portion of their premises, after the purchase, to various members of the aristocracy. In 1694, a Minute states that Lady Alva had taken part of it for a year, at a rent of £20 sterling, and paid 7*s.* as *earnest money*. We have already referred to others of the nobility who were tenants.

The Hall of the Company was not in a very complete state of repair when the Company acquired it, as, in August 1691, "it was represented that the ceiling of the Hall was like to fall down, and that it had need to be plaistered," whereupon "*the whole Company in one voice appoints it to be plaistered.*"

Bowling-Green

Connected with our old Hall property in the Cowgate was a piece of ground, afterwards converted into a bowling-green. Bowls in those days were not so plentiful as now. Ten pair, at a cost of £6, 4*s.* 3*d.*, were obtained *from abroad!* Almost as much difficulty seems to have been experienced in obtaining *Rules* as Bowls; and at a General Meeting of the Company on 30th August 1697, "it being moved by some Members of the Company,

Bowls

* *Traditions of Edinburgh*, p. 230.

Laws of Green

Company, that the Company's bowling green loses many customers by the tacksman wanting *laws* to regulate gamesters and bystanders, which all other bowling greens have; and that there is a person who has the said laws written in a fair hand, and is willing to sell the same for a dollar: the Company ordains the Treasurer to pay a dollar for the said laws, and deliver them to John Hislop, present tacksman, upon his receipt to redeliver the same in good condition at the finish of his tack; or otherwise, to pay the foresaid price for the same." This Green was at one time called *Thomson's Green*, it being sometime tenanted by a man of that name; and it is to it that

Allan Ramsay

Allan Ramsay alludes in one of his poems:—

"Driving their ba's frae whins to tee,
There's no ae gouffer to be seen,
Nor doucer folk wysing a-jee
The byas bowls on Tamson's Green."

This Green is shewn very distinctly on the old and interesting plan annexed to Maitland's *History of Edinburgh*.

The Company's connexion with the Cowgate has not yet wholly ceased, as they still receive £18, 14*s*. of ground rents or annuities from a portion of their old property on which Merchant Street is built. Annuities which formerly amounted to about £73, were reserved by the Company when disposing of their properties in the Cowgate. This sum of £73 continued till 1852 to be paid to the Company. At that time it stood divided thus:—

Merchant Street Annuities

1. Various

1. Various small properties . . £5 5 0
2. Mr George Callender, for "area in the old Excise Office Garden" sold to him (1778) 9 9 0
3. Improvement Commissioners represented by the Bank of Scotland, the Commercial Bank, the Union Bank, and William Bonar, on behalf of the late firm of Ramsay, Bonar, & Company, Bankers 58 6 0

£73 0 0

On 4th August 1852, £54, 6*s.* of the above sum were purchased by the Banks from the Company at a price of £1357, 10*s.*, being 25 years purchase.

Present Hall of Company

The Company purchased their ground on the west side of Hunter Square in September 1788, for £1500, and erected the present Merchant Hall premises upon it.* The estimated value of this property is £4080, and it yields rents to the amount of £225, 12*s.* On the second floor is the Hall of the Company, and in which they hold their General Meetings. It is a commodious, and might, at no great outlay, be made a handsome room. The only ornament in the Hall is the Level which the present Master (Mr Lawson) used at the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone at the New Post-Office. It is handsomely framed in oak, and rests on blue velvet. It has a melancholy

* As will be afterwards seen, the Company had also a place of meeting in the Exchange.

Present Hall

melancholy interest as being so recently used at one of the last public ceremonials, in which the lamented Prince-Consort took part. The following inscription is upon it:—

Level used at New Post-Office

LEVEL
Used by the MASTER of the COMPANY of MERCHANTS,
Edinburgh,
At the laying of the Foundation-Stone of the New Post-Office,
Edinburgh,
By H. R. H. the PRINCE-CONSORT,
October 23rd 1861.

At the north-west end, is a side-room in which the Master and Assistants, and the Governors and Committees of the Company's Hospitals meet. And there is another side-room at the south-west corner. However interesting the present Hall is, as the scene of many a stirring discussion on public questions, it is matter of surprise that such a wealthy and influential Company has not a more imposing place of meeting

But leaving the Halls, past and present, we take up the thread of our narrative as regards the Company's actings in reference to trade and other matters.

As was to be expected, the office-bearers had often, during the gradual rise of the Company, besides attending to the protection of their trade, to manage matters of lesser moment A great proportion of the trouble relating to both the important and unimportant affairs of the Company fell on the Treasurer.

He

He sometimes found that his duties were not very pleasant, but he seems to have gone through them with much spirit. The Treasurer

At the General Meeting, on 6th December 1708,

"The Treasurer reports, that John Beg (the officer), having gone to Leith with William Davidson, Town officer, to poind Mr Comlie, conform to order the 15th November last, and having offered to draw a poind, were masterfully deforced and abused by the said Henry Comlie; and the Treasurer, with John Arburne and Adam Lin, and two officers, having gone to Leith upon another day, viz., 29th November last, in order to draw a poind, or to persuade him to consign a pledge, and refer himself to the Company, he called them 'rogues, villains, and robbers,' and uttered several other opprobrious expressions, not only against the above-named persons in particular, but also against the whole Company, and, lifting up a great cannon-ball, declared, 'that whoever offered to take any poind from him should be a dead man.' Whereupon the said Henry Comlie being called in and acknowledging as to the complaint, the Master ordained him instantly to find caution to compear before the Justice of Peace Court to answer for the said complaint, this day, at 3 afternoon, otherwise appointed two officers to carry him to the guard until he find caution to compear, an said is, upon which he found John Corstorphine, merchant, cautioner to the effect foresaid; and the town-officer having instantly cited him to compear, the Treasurer is appointed immediately to wait upon Mr Samuel Gray, procurator-fiscal, to draw the complaint and disburse what may be necessary, and report to next meeting." The Treasurer and the Cannon Ball

It may be mentioned, that he was fined five pounds sterling, and committed to prison until he paid the same.

Illustrative of the minor matters which the Treasurer had sometimes to attend to, we give the following from the Minutes of 22nd November 1697. The Master and Assistants, in consequence

The Treasurer

quence of a communication from "Humbie, complaining that his hearthstone is broken," remit to the "Treasurer to visit the said hearth and try if the said reparation be necessary, as, also, to try what way the hearthstone was broken." The Treasurer visited the hearthstone, but, "in his opinion, the reparation of the hearthstone is not presently necessary."

The Clerk

As the business of the Company was increasing, they resolved, in September 1684, to fix some allowance to the Clerk; and in the following month (although the Clerk does not appear to have become clamorous), the Master and Assistants appointed the Treasurer, in the meantime, for the Clerk's encouragement, to insure him in as much "money as will mount him in a sufficient suit, with hat and stocking, till they consider further what he shall have conform to the remit from the General Meeting." The Company had a partiality for thus rewarding services, as, shortly afterwards, they ordained Hugh Blair, one of their number, to furnish

Dean of Edinburgh

the Dean of Edinburgh with "six ells of fine black cloth for a gown, and for which the said Hugh Blair is to have from the Company twenty shillings sterling the ell, if it be paid within twelve months, but if it happen to be any longer resting, the price is to be augmented at the discretion of the Company conform to the time."

The Minutes of the Company about this time are expressed with much brevity, and readers are not, therefore, surprised to find Robert Russell appointed interim clerk "in respect, Daniel M'Pherson,

M'Pherson, Clerk to the Merchant Company, is departed this life." And again, at a later period, viz., in the Minutes of September 1704, Walter Cheislie is stated to be elected Preses of that sederunt, "in absence of the Master, who is over the water to the interment of his father-in-law!" Brevity of Minutes

From the very outset of the Company, it received many substantial tokens of goodwill in the shape of donations to the funds, not only from Members, but from strangers connected with them by trade in Manchester, London, and elsewhere; and these strangers were frequently made Members of the Company. The Donors each received a Diploma, as to which great care was shewn. Thus we read as follows in regard to one of these (Minute, 11th October 1697):— Donations

"The Clerk informs that he has made ready a Diploma for Michael Kincaid, who has already gone for London; and seeing the persons that was employed likeways in writing this Diploma, the said Clerk demands to know if this Diploma be fine enough for sending to London, for, in his own opinion, neither the parchment nor write is so good as were requisite to send abroad. Which being considered by the Master and Assistants, they order the Clerk to cause make a new Diploma for the said Michael Kincaid upon finer parchment, and writ by a finer hand; and the same being put in best dress that may be, the Clerk is ordered to deliver the same to the Treasurer, who is appointed to take care to transmit it to his hand with all convenient diligence." Diploma

The Company shewed a good deal of shrewdness as to these donations, as a Diploma put in "best dress" was frequently presented blank in the sum, and the amount was filled

Donations

filled in at the donor's dictation. It may readily be supposed that the fine appearance of the Diploma would occasionally tempt the gift of a larger sum than was at first intended. The following is a copy of a sealed Diploma to a resident Member, acknowledging a donation :—

"Edinburgh, the twentieth day of Julie, one thousand six hundereth and nyntie-one years.

"John Duncan, Merchant, Burges and Guild Brother of the City of Edinburgh, was matriculat and admitted in the Societie and Company of Merchants, to enjoy the liberties and privileges thereof. As, also, in the year one thousand six hundereth and nynty-two years, the said John Duncan payed into Walter Cheislie, their Treasurer, the sum of one hundereth merks, Scots, as the voluntar donation to the said Company. Extracted forth of the Records of the said Company, and their common seall appended by R. Russell, *Cls. Societatis.*"

At a date considerably later than that of which we now write, it was still common to give such donations. Thus, from 1768 to 1819, we find the following amongst many others:—

		£	s.	d.
1768	Sir Laurence Dundas, Bart. .	300	0	0
1769	Mr Beech	140	11	9
1781	James Hunter Blair, Esq. . .	100	0	0
1789	William Ramsay, Esq. of Barnton	105	0	0
1794	Walter Hogg, Esq. . . .	100	0	0
1798	James Gillespie, Esq. of Spylaw .	500	0	0
1819	Andrew Mein, Esq. . . .	105	0	0

In the year 1693, the Company acquired a legacy of £3500 Scots,

Aitkenhead's Mortification

Scots, left by "the deceased David Aitkenhead, Merchant in Poland;" and it was paid over by Sir Patrick Aitkenhead, "Comisar" Clerk of Edinburgh, nephew of the donor, to the Company, for the maintenance of a poor decayed Member of the Company, "if there be any such of the said Company, and if not," then to others as then mentioned. It says much for the position of the Company and the individual Members, that when the interest on this sum first became payable, there was "no one of the said Company or Society of Merchants for the time that stands in need of the benefit of this present mortification."

According to custom, a notice of this donation was ordered to be put on the wall of the Hall, and in these terms:—

"DAVID AITKENHEAD, Merchant in Poland, son of the deceased Mr Thomas Aitkenhead, Advocate, and one of the Comisars of Edinburgh, out of a special respect for that Citie, wherein many of his predecessors had been chief Magistrates, Did mortifie 3500 pounds Scots to be bestowed for any pious use within the same: which sum was paid to the *Merchant Company* on the 2nd of August 1693, By Sir Patrick Aitkenhead, Comisar Clerk of Edinburgh, nephew to the said deceased David, for maintaining decayed Merchants, conform to a contract thereanent passed betwixt the said Sir Patrick and the Merchant Company, which Contract is registrat in the Comisar of Edinburgh, their Court books, upon the 9th of March 1696."

The Aitkenhead Mortification is valued at £250; and a sum of £14, 10*s*., as the interest of the same, is still paid to a decayed member.

In

Armorial Bearings

In July 1693 the Company, in terms of their Act, obtained a Coat of Arms. The following is an extract of the blasonry of this Coat Armorial :—

"To all and sundry whom these presents do or may concerne, I, Sir Alexander Erskine of Cambo, Knight and Baronet, Lyon King of Armes, Considering that by the twenty-one Act of the third session of the second Parliament of *King Charles* the Second, of ever blessed memory, I am empowered to visit the whole armes of Noblemen, Prelates, Barons, and Gentlemen within this kingdom, and to distinguish them with congruent differences, and to matriculate the same in my Books and Registers, and to give armes to vertuous and well-deserveing persons, and extracts of all armes, expressing the Blason thereof, under my hand and seall of office; Which Register is by the said Act ordained to be respected as the true and unrepealable Rule of all Armes and bearings in Scotland, to remain with the Lyon office as the publick Register of the Kingdom : Therefore, conform to the tenor of the said Act of Parliament, I testify and make known that the Armes allowed by me to *the Company of Merchants in Edinburgh* is matriculat in my said Publick Register, upon the day and date of these presents, and is thus blasoned, viz.:—Argent, in the Sea a ship under saill proper flagged of Scotland, a cheif tierced per pale azur, vert, and argent In the first a St Andrew's Cross argent, charged with a Thistle vert, and over it a Crown or, In the second, two Ells in Saltyre or, and from a cloud above a hand issuant and holding a pair of Ballances proper In the thrid, a Castle tripled towred sable. Their crest set above the sheild is a Sphere, with this motto in an Escroll *Terrâ marique* supported by two Sea Unicorns. Which armes the said Company of Merchants in Edinburgh may cause ingrave upon their sealls or cause be otherwayes represented for the use of the said Company. In testimony whereof I have subscrived this extract, and caused append my seall of office hereto, Att Edinburgh, the twentie-fourth day of July, and of the reigne of our Soveraigne

Soveraigne Lord and Lady, King William and Queen Mary, the fyfth year, 1693. (Signed), "ALEXR. ERSKINE, Lyon."

Unlawful Trading

The Company, in virtue of the powers given them by their Charter, exerted their best efforts to prevent unlawful trading in the city. Occasionally, however, such was carried on stealthily, until, by some unlucky indiscretion on the part of the offender, it was discovered. Thus, in 1697, it is reported by the Treasurer—

"That an unfreewoman, named Mary Flackfield, being a Glasgow woman, har gone thru' Edinburgh for a considerable time, from house to house, with great quantities of muslin plaids and other merchants wares, and having come at last to the said Treasurer's house with four plaids, offering to sell the same, he seized the said plaids, and produced them instantly at the Board; and the said Mary Flackfield being present did acknowledge her trading as said is, and submit herself to the Company's determination; which being considered by the Master and Assistants, they ordain the said Mary Flackfield to pay to the said Treasurer the sum of twenty pounds Scots; and appoints the Treasurer to keep the plaids till the said sum is paid."

Mary, however, did not quietly submit to this penalty; on the contrary, in January 1698, she petitioned for pardon, in respect that she had an aged mother to support; and the Company, with its usual liberality, granted it.

The Company had sometimes difficulty in obtaining payment of the dues and fines, and they had occasionally to take curious kinds of security for them. Thus, in the Minutes of 19th November 1698, we read, that "William Lamb being presented,

presented, he desired that, seeing he has not ready money to pay what he is resting, the Company therefore may be pleased to accept of three butts of good sack, which he has in hand, and in Leith, in security of their money." The sack was accepted, but was afterwards (16th January 1699) ordered to be sold.

Mrs Chalmers's Web, Widowhood, and Marriage

Captain Chalmers and his wife were both troublesome people, about the year 1700. It is ordered, in September, in reference to a web detained in security of dues owing by the late Captain Chalmers, that "his relick be spoke to and required to pay what her husband owes, and take back the said web." Looking through the subsequent Minutes with mournful feelings to ascertain the fate of this widow's web, the reader is startled by coming upon the following entry in October 1701:—"Mrs Chalmers sent an excuse *that she married yesterday night*, and so cannot coveniently attend this day to relieve the web, but that she will be ready against next meeting; in respect whereof, the rouping of her web is delayed till she be of new warned."

Lawyers

The Merchant Company, unlike some other corporations, do not appear to have expressly excluded lawyers from entering the Company; and, in point of fact, a number did enter. Thus, on 18th February 1697, "Charles Mitchell, Writer in Edinburgh, as also Burgess and Gild Brother, hereof, per ticket, dated the 14th of August 1695, subscribed the book and paid his dues to the Treasurer; and thereafter, having given his promise of fidelity, was admitted as a member."

Several

Several of the Writers who entered, appear to have been also merchants.

A very long memorial was prepared in 1703 by the Company, as to importing and wearing prohibited goods. It contained the following curious account of the trials and troubles of Edinburgh Merchants :—

Trials and Troubles of Edinburgh Merchants

"Edinburgh is the chief centre and city of the kingdom for the main transactions of trade, and (by a common mistake) is presumed to be the place where reformation must begin; and therefore at making prohibitory laws on trade, all rigour and severity is used there, while the whole nation beside goes free. And those Merchants alenarly are harassed, while the wearers and all others gae free and uncontrolled through another mistake—that if the Merchants be narrowly looked after, the laws will be effectual; and yet we have found by experience, that unless the wearing be restrained all other endeavours will be to no purpose, for the ready finding of buyers and wearers does alenarly tempt strangers and smuglers to import, yea it is known that some of the Society of Prosecutors are in the transgression for wearing prohibite goods in their families, and have been detected heretofore, but never punished.

"Amongst all the crowd of transgressors which have been attacqued or are known, the Merchants of Edinburgh are few, not above three or four, and the latest too, and have been forced to it through the ruin of their trade and livlyhood by the vast import and consumption of prohibite goods as is already observed, and the importers and sellers are either unfree, strangers, and smuglers, or the servants of noblemen and gentlemen, and some even gentlemen and ladies themselves, who are protected against the law by the means of persons of dignity and in power, and some favourable excuse made in their favors, or some other shift to bring them off.

"In prosecution of the laws, the Merchants are at random harassed by pursuits, and many brought under bonds of ane unaccountable nature, and

Trials and Troubles of Edinburgh Merchants

and unprofitable, and were denied the common favour of ane oath of calumny, till by much pains and expenses they obtained ane Interlocutor thereon by the Honourable Lords of Sessione in their favours, and the Society of Prosecutors being thereafter straitned in many of their processes to give the oath of calumny, have hired a common fellow on weekly pensione, to depone in all processes; a most unchristian and unheard of practise, and the delegates of this society have at their own hands, without consent of their constituents who payed the fund of money, appointed a third part of all free funds to be given to the managers of the process, although they undertook the work gratis for a common benefite, which demonstrates how they chiefly designed their own private profits, both in your pretended silk manufactories, and prosecuting the laws.

"The Merchants lye exposed to rude and libertine searching and overturning of their shops and houses upon a general and summar warrant, without any previous process or cognition taken of a just cause for so doing; and though found free of prohibite goods, are yet abused by being at pleasure put upon oath to answer various and dubious prying questions never before allowed, without being examined on or allowed to give such a genuine, plain, and conscionable answer as might satisfy any but inquisitors, and have no favour allowed them but the oath of calumny of this common hired swearer.

"At searches they are often brought under difficulties by having their sealed goods carried off and the sealls broke or defaced by rough handling, or are sometimes so unluckie as to have goods that were sealed, and the seal broke or defaced, and in none of these cases is there any favour to ym agt the rigour and letter of the law, tho' the antiquity and fashion of the goods plainly tells that they have not been unlawfully imported; nor are they allowed redress for spuilzie when their lawful goods are carried away without being measured. Yea, they have no certainty but that a pack of ruffians may attacque their shop (when there is only a servant within) on a pretended warrant to search for prohibite goods.

"The

Trials and Troubles of Edinburgh Merchants

"The Merchants are also exposed to unreasonable and expensive processes for goods found in y^r custody, whereof the very like are made in the kingdom, although they be bought at home, and that the possessor was made accessary to unlawful importane, and on they are put to oath on various inquisitory and extraneous questions without being allowed the reasonable demand of a legall probatione to be led against them on the goods; and by this practice are exposed to all imaginable hardships and inconveniences, and the innocent doo often run the hazard of unlawful swearing, or be contemned by consequences.

"And notwithstanding of this rigour against Merchants, these prosecutors must acknowledge that the wearing and using of these prohibite goods is almost universall and without controle, albeit probatione can be easily adduced against the transgressors without any oaths, and there has been little or no attempts against the servants of noblemen and gentlemen, and some gentlemen and ladies themselves, for importation, except in a very few instances which were had up, and then let fall at the desire of some great man or other, notwithstanding of the certificatione against connivers.

"Yea, some Collonels of Regiments have provided the cloathing, at least of y^r Officers, in England, and yet are free as is commonly reported.

"And therefore, if the Parliament doo not think fitt to rescind the laws against silk, hair, and cotton, but will hear non-proposals of additions thereto, it is humbly and earnestly begged that they will seriously consider what is above represented, and the reasonableness of the demands of the Merchants."

Attendance at Meetings

Notwithstanding the fines for non-attendance, the Assistants were occasionally absent from meetings, and those present, after waiting about an hour, generally adjourned, first taking care to order the absentees to be poinded. A seemingly very good mode of securing punctual attendance at meetings was fallen

fallen on in 1704, as we read in the Minutes of the Master and Assistants, on 25th September 1704:—

"That the Master, Treasurer, and haill Assistants present, with the Clerk, are of opinion, *nomine contradicente*, that the consigning of money will be more efficacious to oblige all due attendance than the signing of a Bond, and therefore resolve, that at the next sederunt the Master, Treasurer, and Clerk shall each of them consign £5, 12s., and each Assistant £2, 16s.; and that at every sederunt thereafter the Master, Treasurer and Clerk shall, when present, get out 14s. each of them, and each Assistant present 7s.; and that the dividend falling due to them, as said is, shall, when they are absent without tymous and relevant excuse, be forfeited and put into the sero-box. And it is farther resolved and agreed, that when the first consignment shall be exhausted, they shall renew the same, according to the proportion and to the ends above written.

Excuses

Assistants occasionally sent excuses of their non-attendance at meetings, on the ground of their being absent in London. The journey in those days must have been a serious matter, as the mail-coach, about the year 1700, took 131 hours to go to London.

Great Fire

On the night of the 3rd of February 1700, a great fire took place at the north-east corner of the Meal Market, and all the great pile of buildings on the east and south sides of the Parliament Square or Close, with the Exchange, were burned to the ground. Some of the National Records were lost or destroyed on the occasion. It was computed that about 200 families were dislodged by this disaster. Many of the Members of the Company suffered by it. Accordingly, at the Meeting

ing of the Master and Assistants on the 19th February 1700, it is reported that there had been no Meeting since the 20th January, "in consequence of the great fire, by which several concerned had their houses and shops, at least one of them, burnt and destroyed."

Act against Immorality

On 24th April 1700, the Town Council having passed an Act against immorality, and the Company "finding themselves in duty bound to do likewise," specially referred to this fire in the following Resolution :—

"Att Edinburgh, the twenty-ninth day of May 1700 years. The which day the General Meeting of the Merchant Company of Edr. considering the great growth of Immoralities of all sorts, and the fearful rebuke of God by a dreadful fyre in the Parliament Close, Kirkhewgh, and Cowgate, which happened the third day of February last, and other tokens of wrath lately come upon the city, and moved with the zeal of God and the tyes he hath laid on them, and that they have taken upon them to appear for him in their stations, Doe in the Lord's strength, Resolve to be more watchful over their hearts and ways than formerly, and each of them in their several capacities to Reprove vyce with due zeal and prudence as they shall have occasion, and to endeavour to promote the vigorous execution of these good laws made for the suppressing of vyce and punishing of the vicious; and the said Company appoints their Clerk to read or move the reading hereof every Quarterly Meeting in tyme coming, under the penalty of twenty merks *toties quoties*."

The Treasurer

The Treasurer appears to have had considerable powers, as, at a General Meeting on 30th November 1702, he reports having—seemingly without any special authority—borrowed £800 from George Watson, the Treasurer of the Maiden Hospital

Hospital. This George Watson was the founder of the Hospital of that name.

Burgess's Daughters

On 6th September 1703, it is unanimously agreed, that whatever young women, being Burgess's Daughters, have paid or shall pay their consignation as Merchant Traders, and from that time have paid and shall pay their quarter dues, if these women shall thereafter marry, their husbands shall not be obliged to pay their dues of upset unless they please, but shall have the benefit of their wives' consignation.

Clothiers

Although the united businesses of cloth merchant and tailor are now met with on every hand, the amalgamation of them caused at first much complaint. On 23rd October 1704, several members complain to a General Meeting "that their trade is almost ruined and taken out of their hands by unfreemen and women who have no privilege, and partly by tailors, who ought either to give over trade in merchandise, or to lay aside their calling as tailors. The Company authorize the Master and Assistants to convene before the Dean of Guild and his Court, such tailors as they know trade in merchandise, to the end that they may be obliged either to quit the same, or their calling as tailors."

Papers to be booked

In October 1697, the Master and Assistants being of opinion, "that it may be of dangerous consequence to the Company to take their receipts, discharges, and other writs on loose papers, which are apt to be lost; appointed all such to be written in a book, in all time coming." It is much to be regretted

regretted that this order was not better observed; as, had it been, copies of many interesting papers connected with the early history of the Company, now lost, would have been extant.

Clerk to write Receipts, &c.

At the same Meeting, "the said Master and Assistants being of opinion, that the said receipts and discharges should be writ by the Clerk to the Company: they, therefore, recommend to the Treasurer to cause inform the Clerk whenever he may have occasion to pay out money or take receipts or discharges, to the end the same may be writ by the Clerk."

Presentations to Maiden Hospital

On 1st February 1699, "in a Meeting of the Master and Assistants, called *pro re nata*, for electing four children to be presented by them to the Maiden Hospital," the mother of one of the children "compeared personally with her said child, and declares solemnly that she is not able to maintain and educate the said child." It was customary for the parents or friends thus to attend.

Attendance at Funerals

At the same meeting, it was "ordered that John Baly, warn the hail Members of this Company to meet at the Plainstones before Bailie Bowden's shop, to-morrow, a quarter before two in the afternoon, to go in a body, with the Master, to James Blackwood's spouse's burial, at Bristo, and that under the penalty of fourteen shillings Scots, for each person that shall be warned and not attend, and that they be acquainted to be in mournings."

The Company, owing to their position, had very easy access to the Scots Parliament. Of this we give an illustration. On 14th

Company and Parliament

14th August 1704, the Master reported that he had "given in to the Lord Register" a Representation as to Trade, agreed to at last meeting; "and the same being called for in Parliament by Sir Patrick Johnston, was read, and the masters of the silk manufactories ordained to see and answer the same; who having given in their answers, the Representation and answers are now lying before the Parliament." The meeting recommended to the Master and Treasurer, and such of the Assistants or other Members as they should call, to speak further to the Members of Parliament, and press the reading of the said Representation.

On 21st August 1704, the Master presented the draft of an Act of Parliament, discharging the wearing of all manufactured silk, hair, and cotton, whether imported from abroad or manufactured at home; which being read, it was recommended to the Master, and such as he shall think fit, to call with him, to let Sir David Cunningham see the same, that he may put such amendments thereon as he shall think fit, before it be presented in Parliament; and advise with the said Sir David, if it be necessary that there should be a draft of another Act prepared and presented, allowing the import and wearing of all manufactured silk, hair, and cotton, so that whichever of the two alternatives contained in the Merchants' Representation the Parliament shall most incline to go into, there may be an Act drafted and presented, to answer the same; as, also, that the Master advise with the said Sir David, if

Company and Parliament

if it be necessary to draw replies to the answers given in by the masters of the silk manufactories.

On 28th August 1704, the Master reported he had seen Sir David Cunningham, who drew out an Act allowing the import and wearing of silk, hair, and cotton manufactures, and did also see the Act formerly drawn discharging the same; both which were transferred, and clear doubles thereof given in to the several Members of Parliament; but the same are not yet brought in to be considered in Parliament. As, also, he reports that Sir David thought it needless to draw any reply to the answers given in by the masters of the silk manufactories.

We have quoted sufficient to shew the close communication betwixt Parliament and the Company.

Unfreemen

Though Unfreemen were acting injuriously to the Company, Members were unwilling to come forward openly and inform against them. A happy idea, however, suggested itself; and at a meeting of the Company, held 9th June 1701, it was—

"Overtured, that several regulations might be made in trade, and several abuses committed therein might be rectified, had all Members freedom to signify their mind and give information, without disobliging their particular friends and neighbours: And a motion being made, that a box be bought, with lock and key, and a slit in the head thereof, for receiving in writ, what any Members shall have to signify and inform towards the end foresaid, the said motion was approven of, and the Treasurer appointed to buy the box: And it is recommended to all Members

Unfreemen

Members of this Society, who shall have anything to inform for regulation of trade or rectifying abuses, or that anyways may tend for the good of this Company, to put the same in writing, and give it in to the box, either at this meeting, or at any other meeting of Master and Assistants, or of the haill Company: And for preventing the detecting of the person informer, it is ordained, that at every meeting for some time to come every person present shall, in order as they sit, give in a paper to the said box, whether writ or unwrit."

New Members

It was frequently the custom for a Merchant who had not yet become a Burgess, and so was not entitled to admission into the Company, to pay, when called upon, his entry dues, but not to be formally received as a Member, or to be allowed to sign the record of entrants, until he obtained his Burgess Ticket. A considerable interval sometimes elapsed betwixt the date of payment and of admission; and confusion was often the consequence. To obviate this in someway, it was, at a meeting held on 3rd January 1698, enacted and ordained,—

"That in all time coming, when any Merchant enters to the Company who is entered Burges, his ticket be produced as formerly to the Clerk, who is to write thereon the day of that person's paying his dues, entering, and being matriculate, and sign the same. And where any person consigns his dues, not being Burges, the Clerk is to give a line under his hand bearing the time of his consignation; and the Company declare that, from and after the date of the said payments, the persons entering, as said is, shall be liable for their quarter dues, and not otherways [but they could not vote till they were Burgesses, and signed the book — January 1700]; and seeing that this is a new trouble to the Clerk, they are of opinion that he may demand of each entrant half a merk above the former dues."

The

The practice of writing the certificate of entry on the back of the Burgess Ticket still continues.

Old and New Exchange

In 1726, the Company, who were now in the custom of meeting in the Council House (having let their property in the Cowgate), purchased a property in the "high Exchange," for a public hall. On 8th August 1751, the Company agreed to sell this property to the town to make way for new buildings; and on the 21st of July 1752, there was a general meeting "called at the desire of the Lord Provost, who wanted this opportunity of laying before the Members the plans of the buildings proposed to be erected on the north side of the street at the Cross, and on the ruins upon the south side of the Parliament Close. . . . And his Lordship having come to the meeting, he laid before them the plans of the foresaid buildings, whereby it is intended to remove the front of the buildings to be raised on the north side of the street at the Cross, a convenient space backwards, and to have a handsome Exchange or public forum" and various other important buildings. And "his Lordship acquainted the meeting . . . that as the city revenue was not sufficient for answering so great an expense . . . it was proposed that the expense should be partly defrayed by sums raised by voluntary contributions. . . That as the Merchant Company was a very numerous body, and composed of many of the considerable trading burgesses of the city, to whose accommodation some part of what was proposed chiefly tended, he had judged it proper to lay the plans before them."

The

The Company, having considered this statement, agreed to subscribe towards the erection of the Exchange, not from the funds of the Company, but out of "their own private pockets."*

Sale of Old Exchange Property

On 26th December 1753, at a meeting in the "British Coffeehouse," the completion of the sale of the old Exchange property was reported, and the Treasurer laid before the meeting an extract Act of Council in favour of the Company, as part of the above transaction, which was read, and which the Master and Assistants appointed to be engrossed in this minute, whereof the tenor follows:—

Company to meet in the Town Chambers

"Edinburgh, the 6th of December 1752 years, the which day the Lord Provost, Magistrates, and Council, with the Deacons of Crafts, ordinary and extraordinary, of the city of Edinburgh, being in council assembled, Treasurer Fairholme reported that on Friday last he had attended a meeting with the Master and Assistants of the Merchant Company anent the payment of seventy-three pounds sterling, as the price for the old Exchange purchased by the city, when he found there was no Act of Council empowering him to make such payment, altho' the Disposition which is signed and extended, bears the foresaid price to be payed by the late Treasurer Mr Sands; which having been considered by the Magistrates and Council, They, with the Extraordinary Deacons, authorized Mr Fairholme, City Treasurer, to pay the foresaid sum of £73, and to take credit therefor in his Accompts. The same day the Treasurer further represented that at the time of making the foresaid purchase, it was amongst other things agreed upon to accommodate the Merchant Company

* The foundation stone of the Royal Exchange was laid on 13th September 1753. The building, including the area, cost £31,000.

pany in some one or other of the City's publick places or rooms for the Company's meetings, in all time thereafter, free of any charges, as appears by the Council's minutes, of date the 9th day of August last, albeit the same was not specially enacted by the said minute: Which having been considered by the Magistrates and Council, they, with the extraordinary Deacons, did, and hereby do, consent and agree, to accommodate the said Company at all their meetings in time coming, with the use of some one or other of the City's publick places or rooms free of any expense, and appointed an Extract of these presents to be delivered to the Preses of the Merchant Company.

Place of Meeting of Company provided by Town

"Extracted upon this and the preceding page furth of the Council Records of the said City by "Jo. G. WILLIAMSON."

Down to the year 1734, the Company had confined their attention solely to the management of their own trade, the superintendence of the hospitals, and the relief of their poor. They now, however, commenced to take part in a wider field, and, from this time downwards, the history of the Company, as regards questions of general public importance, may be said to be the history of the city itself. Owing to the great influence of the Company the various measures supported by them were very generally successful; and many attempts were made to secure their countenance and support in matters also of lesser moment. It would, however, tire our readers were we particularly to advert to the numerous public questions referred to in the Records; but for the sake of after reference we shall note some of them. We may premise that the whole proceedings of the Company in relation to the admission of members, the protection of its trade, the creation and management of its charities, and the part it took in

Company begin to take part in general Matters

Company Records

in public questions, have, with the exception of the years from 1714 to 1725 (of which no written records are preserved), been recorded in the Minutes of the Company, down to the present time; and the Records, therefore, offer most tempting pages from which to quote.

The Minutes of the Company are contained in the Record of Entrants before alluded to, and the fifteen following volumes:—

Vol. I.	From 1696 to 1704
Vol. II.	From 1704 to 1714
Vol. III. (defective to 1733)	From 1714 to 1746
Vol. IV.	From 1746 to 1767
Vol. V.	From 1767 to 1783
Vol. VI.	From 1783 to 1802
Vol. VII.	From 1802 to 1813
Vol. VIII.	From 1813 to 1819
Vol. IX.	From 1819 to 1825
Vol. X.	From 1825 to 1829
Vol. XI.	From 1829 to 1834
Vol. XII.	From 1834 to 1839
Vol. XIII.	From 1839 to 1847
Vol. XIV.	From 1847 to 1854
Vol. XV.	From 1854 to 1862

One of the matters which engaged the Company, so far back as 1687, sounds not unlike that which agitated the Company within the last few months, and in which Sir William Johnston did such good service: "The Company appoints application to be made to the Magistrates for taking off the imposition on shops for cleansing of the streets."

The

Bills

The Company, in March 1734, petition the Committee of the Convention of the Royal Burghs, in favour of summary diligence on bills being allowed, as well for the expenses of that diligence as for the principal sum and interest.

Porteous Mob

The year 1736 was an eventful one in Edinburgh, as it was in September that the murder of Captain Porteous took place in the Grassmarket, an occurrence which is described so vividly in Sir Walter Scott's famous *Heart of Mid-Lothian.* The Company did their utmost to defend Edinburgh against the unjust aspersions levelled at it by the Government. As is well known, Queen Caroline was so indignant when she heard of the riot and murder, that it is reported Her Majesty "in the height of her displeasure, told the celebrated John Duke of Argyll, that sooner than submit to such an insult, she would make Scotland a hunting field." "In that case, Madame," answered that high-spirited nobleman, with a profound bow, "I will take leave of your Majesty, and go down to my own country to get my hounds ready." The import of this reply, continues Sir Walter, had "more than met the ear; and as most of the Scottish nobility and gentry seemed actuated by the same national spirit, the royal displeasure was necessarily checked in mid-volley, and milder courses were recommended and adopted." A Bill, however, was brought into the House of Lords, intitled,—

"An Act to disable Alexander Wilson, Esquire, from taking, holding, or enjoying any office or place in the Magistracy in the City of Edinburgh,

Porteous Mob

Edinburgh, or elsewhere in Great Britain, and for imprisoning the said Alexander Wilson; and for abolishing the Guard kept up in the said city, commonly called the Town Guard; and for taking away the Gates of the Nether Bow Port, and keeping open the same."

The Company resolved to defend the Lord Provost Wilson, and prepared a petition, praying to be heard by counsel. This petition gives the opinion of the Company as to the origin of the Porteous riots:—

"Your petitioners look with the utmost detestation and abhorrence upon the late riotous tumults, and the most inhuman murder committed in it on Captain John Porteous, in open violence of all law and justice, contempt of government, and presumptuous obstruction of royal mercy: . . . That, so far as your petitioners know, after all the enquiry that hath been made for discovering the authors and actors of that seditious riot and cruel murder, we have good reason to say, that no one citizen or householder was concerned, and that the same was carried on by strangers, and the very meanest of the populace, unknown to us: . . . That the taking away of the City Guard, and laying open the gates of the Nether Bow Port, besides the ignominy of these being done at such a juncture, will be attended with dangers and inconveniences to the peace and safety of the city, and to the public revenue."

The petition, it may be mentioned, though sent to London, was withdrawn, on the advice of counsel, that it ought not to be presented, "if it is intended to serve the Provost of the city. Besides, if it is presented, we think the House of Lords will either reject it, or order it to lie on the table."

The Bill met with stout opposition from the Duke of Argyll, but was, nevertheless, sent down to the House of Commons,

Porteous Mob

Commons, where the Scotch Members exerted themselves strenuously in the defence of their capital. The clauses for imprisoning the Lord Provost, abolishing the City Guard, and removing the Nether Bow Port, *were left out*, and a fine of £2000 imposed on the city for the benefit of Porteous's widow.

Pedlar Act

On 18th April 1737, the Company had under consideration the amendment of the Pedlar Act.

Workhouse and other Matters

On 10th November 1738, proposals were laid before the Company for building and endowing an hospital or workhouse for maintaining and employing the poor of the city. On 28th February 1739, they petitioned the House of Commons as to the late Convention with Spain. On 4th August 1740, thanks were voted to the Duke of Argyll for his public-spirited conduct; and, on 10th September 1745, there was an Address to His Majesty on "his safe arrival in the British Dominions, after the pains your Majesty has been taking abroad to secure Europe from the boundless and wicked ambition of France."

The Pretender, 1745

We now come to the year 1745, when Prince Charles Stuart landed in Scotland, raised the Highland standard at Glenfinnan, and arrived with his followers at Edinburgh on 17th September. The Company during these troublous times remained, as it has always done, honourably loyal, and took the first opportunity of presenting the following Address to King George :—

LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Address to the King

"To the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the humble Address of the Merchant Company of the City of Edinburgh.

"Most Gracious Sovereign,

"When some deluded and perjured men, aided by the barbarous Inhabitants of the more remote parts of the Country, and Instigated by the Tool of our Inveterate and ambitious Enemies, dared to disturb your Majestie's mild and legal Government, our Duty and Inclination called upon us to declare our readiness to defend your Majesty and our happy Constitution, with our hands and fortunes: We have shown in some small measure that we were sincere,—That our honest Intentions were not so successfull as we wished, will, we hope, appear not to have been our fault.

"Sensible of the many inestimable blessings our fathers and we have enjoyed since the Happy Revolution, and which can only be secured to us by the continuance of the Crown in your Majesty's Royal House, vain were all the arts of secret Treachery and open violence to make us change the best of Kings for ane abjured Pretender, the blessings of Liberty for arbitrary power, and the Protestant Religion for Papal tyranny and persecution.

"Your Majestie's tender care in sending so seasonably His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland to Scotland, whose name was the terror of the Rebels, and whose valour and conduct has, under God, totally defeated their daring and perfidious attempt, cannot fail to inspire us with the most grateful sentiments.

"The known Union of Britons during the late struggle, some few excepted, must demonstrate how delusive the hopes, and how fatal to themselves the conduct of such as would enslave a free and brave people, and will, we trust, at once extinguish the most sanguine Expectations of all your Majestie's and our Enemies, and more firmly establish our happy Constitution, which they intended to destroy.

"That your Majesty may long reign over and in the hearts of a free and happy people, and that there may never be wanting one of your August House to perpetuate the Blessing of your Government, nor one of

of your family to add Lustre to the British Crown, and to be the Defenders of the Liberties of Mankind, is the prayer of

" Signed and sealed in presence of, and by appointment of the Compy.

" ARCHD. ANGUS.

" EDINBURGH, 1 May 1746."

Sett of Burgh

On 23d June 1746, there is a meeting to consider how the Sett of Burgh might be altered and improved, " and made more agreeable to the constitution of Britain, where the people are represented and governed by men of their own choice;" and, on 4th August 1746, proposed amendments were reported.

On 17th February 1749, proposals for support of the poor of the city were again considered.

On 8th April 1760, the Company have under consideration the city's application to Parliament as to bringing water into the city, and laying a tax on the inhabitants for same. On 28th November 1760, the Company present an Address of Condolence to the Crown on the death of George II. On 1st April 1761, there is a General Meeting called to consider as to a proper person to represent the city in Parliament. A majority of the Town Council having invited a peer of the realm to name a proper person, the Company expressed their strong disapproval of this conduct; and it was stated that the " bad effects of this measure already appeared; for though this city had ever since the Union been represented in Parliament by one of its own citizens, except in one instance, when our Member

Death of George II.

Company protests against interference of Peers and Strangers at Elections

City Representation

Member was a gentleman of estate in the neighbourhood, and who, for most part, was a residenter in town; yet, on the present occasion, it was believed the person recommended, and consequently to be chosen, is so far from being a citizen, that he is a stranger in town, and even in this part of the country: that they are far from saying that the gentleman's being born in South Britain incapacitates him from being a Member for North Britain, as they look upon England and Scotland as now happily making but one nation; but they cannot help thinking that it was the intention of the Legislature, in ordering Members to be chosen by the different counties and burghs, that such Members should be well acquainted with the constitution, interest, and inclinations of those they represented, that the Parliament, when met, might be fully instructed in what concerned every particular part of the nation."

The Company directed that their opinions should be communicated to the Lord Provost.

Company's Support asked for a Parliament Candidate

On 3rd April 1761, Mr John Fordyce attended a meeting of Master-Assistants, intimated his resolution to stand candidate to represent the city in Parliament, and asked the support of the Company.

The meetings of the Company about this time took place in "John's Coffee-house" and the "Exchange Coffee-house."

On 22nd April 1761, at a meeting of the Master and Assistants, it was reported that John Osburn, merchant, late Provost of Edinburgh, had left to the Company, for behoof of George

George Watson's Hospital, £851, 2*s.* 2*d.* sterling, under burden of a certain annuity.

On 22nd April 1762, the Master and Assistants asked to concert some method for discouraging English Riders from coming to this country. The following had sometime before been extensively signed in Edinburgh :— English Riders

Resolution and Agreement amongst certain Merchants of Edinburgh, to discourage English Riders from coming into Scotland, dated 5th June 1752.

" We Subscribers, Merchants in Edinburgh, considering that the giving orders or commissions to English Riders, or Clerks to English Merchants, when they come to this city, tends greatly to the distruction of the wonted wholesale trade thereof, from which most of the towns in Scotland used to be furnished with goods, and that some of these English Riders not only enhances the said wholesale trade, but also corresponds with and sells goods to private families and persons at the same prices and rates as if to us in a wholesale way; and that their frequent journeys to this place are attended with high charges, which, consequently, must be laid on the cost of those goods we buy from them; and that we can be as well served in goods by a written commission by post, as little or no regard is had by them to the patterns or colours of goods which we order them to send when they are here; therefore, and for the promoting of trade, we hereby voluntarily bind and oblige ourselves, that in no time coming, from and after the date hereof, we, nor either of us, nor any person by our order, or on our account, shall give any personal order or commission for any goods we deal in to any English Dealer, Clerk, or Rider whatever, who shall come to Scotland; and, also, that after the first day of January next, we shall in no shape whatever have any dealings or traffic with any people in England, who shall, after that date, make a practice of coming themselves,

English Riders

themselves, or sending Clerks or Riders into Scotland: and in case either of us shall at any time act contrary to one or both of these obligations, we bind and oblige ourselves, upon our being convict thereof, voluntarily, and without any process of law, to pay to the Treasurer of the Charity Workhouse of this city, for the time being, for the use of the said house, the sum of Two Pounds Two Shillings, sterling money, *toties quoties*, for each time we are so convicted, which Treasurer is hereby fully authorized and empowered to sue for, levy, and receive the same. And we consent to the registration hereof in the books of Council and Session, or any others competent, therein to remain for preservation; or, if need be, that letters of horning on six days charge, and all other executorials needful may pass hereon in form as effeirs. And for that effect, we constitute our Pro'rs, &c.—In Witness whereof, we have subscribed these presents, written on stamped vellum, by William Dun, Writer in Edinburgh, at Edinburgh, the fifth day of June, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Two years, before these witnesses, George Waddell, Chairmaster in Edinburgh, and the said William Dun.

On 30th August 1762 certain operations of the Turnpike Road Trustees under consideration.

Insult to the Master

The Company shewed a due knowledge of the respect due to them, and would not brook any affront, whether at the hands of strangers or their own members. On the 9th November 1762, they resolved to complain to the Lords of the Admiralty, that, having reported to the Lord Provost their opinion that Captain Keith Stuart, appointed to watch the enemy's privateers on the coast of Scotland, was not closely attending to his duty, the Captain had come to Edinburgh "a few days thereafter, and, in a most ungentlemanly manner, insulted the Preses

Reparation for Insult

Preses with abusive language, and threatened him with personal injury or, to use his own words, 'that he would break every bone in his body.' The Company, therefore, demanded reparation for this insult." Before the despatch of this letter, the family of Galloway applied to the Company, earnestly requesting them not to forward their complaint to the Admiralty; and at a meeting on 27th December, the following letter was read and accepted. It shews very clearly that it was considered a dangerous proceeding to risk the enmity of the Company.

"London, *December 11th* 1762.

"To Mr Alexander Brown,
Preses of the Merchant Company, Edinburgh,

"Sir,—Mr Todd, in the course of our correspondence, informed me how much you and the Merchant Company, in which you have the honour to preside, took amiss some expressions to you which escaped me before I left Edinburgh. You must be sensible, Sir, that you gentlemen on shore, are bred to a delicacy of expression which we seafaring people are often deficient in, but we have sometimes the sense to reflect, and the honesty to acknowledge our error, which I now do to the Company and their President, as the most honorable reparation I can make. I am well apprised from my friend Todd of your readiness to forgive and forget mistakes, and hope you will yourself accept of this apology, and favour me with your good offices to make it acceptable to the Company, for whom I have a great regard, and who I am very sorry to have offended. Your compliance will much oblige, Sir, Your humble servant, K. Stuart."

"*P.S.*—I have entreated my good friend the Lord Provost to make any further apology for me he may think necessary."

We have said that the Company would not permit any indignity

Misconduct of Assistants

dignity even from their own Members. The following is an illustration of this :—

"The Master acquainted the General Meeting, that some of the Assistants had the assurance, in a constituted Meeting of the Master and Assistants, within these few days, to tell him that they and others had concerted to absent themselves from this meeting, to the end there might not be a sufficient quorum of a General Meeting, and that thereby the Annual Election of the Office-bearers of the Company might be disappointed."

The Company desired the Master to name these Assistants, which he did.

"Whereupon the General Meeting testified their highest displeasure with the conduct of these Members, not only for their wilfully absenting themselves from this meeting but also for throwing such indignity upon the Master, in character of Master, and upon the Company, and for acting contrary to the trust reposed in them at their election, when the most valuable rights and privileges of the Company are lodged in their hands, and which they now endeavour to destroy; and the Company reserve to themselves to consider what further notice shall be taken of this affair."

No further mention is made in the Minutes of this matter.

On the 25th January 1763, complaints against the management of Heriot's Hospital are considered.

On 3rd June 1763, Sett of the City again under discussion.

On 29th August, an application being about to be made to Parliament for augmenting the tolls payable at the several toll bars near the city, the Company and other public bodies intimated their intention to oppose it, whereupon the measure was abandoned.

On

Cowgate Property

On 2nd July 1764, the Earl of Morton, Lord Clerk Register, wrote to the Master, proposing to purchase an area in the Excise-Office Garden, "whereupon to build public offices for the safe custody of the writs of the kingdom that come into the custody of the clerks of the Supreme courts." The matter did not go further.

Extension of Royalty

On 16th December 1766, the Lord Provost having written to the Master, inclosing a draft of an Act of Parliament for the extension of the Royalty over the ground lying to the north of the then city, the Company expressed their approval of it.

Canal Bill

On 17th April 1767, the Company apply to Parliament to delay the Forth and Clyde Canal Bill.

Sir Lawrence Dundas

On 21st September 1767, thanks voted to Sir Lawrence Dundas "for £300 to poor of the Company, and £200 to their Maiden Hospital;" and, on 19th October 1767, the Company instruct the Master to communicate to the Lord Provost and Council their opinion that Sir Lawrence Dundas should be asked to become Member of Parliament.

Beech's Mortification

On 11th May 1769, mortification reported in favour of Company by Mrs Isobel Beech or Drummond, relict of George Beech, Merchant in Edinburgh, the interest to be applied in supporting in the Trinity Hospital "a decayed Merchant Burgess of Edinburgh, and Member of the said Merchant Company, or the relict or lawful son or daughter of such Merchant Burgess and Member of the said Merchant Company, with a preference

preference for (1) those named Beech, and (2) those named Drummond."

Bankruptcy Bill, &c.

On 15th February 1771, Bankruptcy Bill and law as to Bills and Promissory Notes considered.

Forms of Procedure

On 20th June 1772, there was a meeting in the High Council House, at four o'clock in the afternoon, held in consequence of a requisition to the Preses "by several members desiring a general meeting this day on a matter of public concern." One of the requisitionists having stated the object of the meeting, it was agreed that as the matter has not first been laid before the Master and Assistants, it did not come regularly before the meeting, and therefore the Company remitted it to the Master and Assistants."

Abuses of Trade Mortmain Act

On 19th October 1772, general meeting as to abuses in trade.

On 18th May 1773, Company resolved to oppose Mortmain Act relating to the vesting of the property of mortmain estates in the public funds. On 2nd June 1773, letter from Sir Lawrence Dundas, that Bill would not pass—at least this session.

Preses of Watson's Hospital

On 28th December 1773, at a meeting in the Exchange Coffee-house, amongst other matters, one of the members stated "that the business of the two Hospitals was at present at a stand, occasioned by, as he thought, a very irregular procedure of the Governors of Watson's Hospital, finding that the Master of the Company (who, in virtue of his office, is Preses of both Hospitals), has no right to vote along with the other Governors, but only a casting vote in case of the votes being equal, whereby

whereby he thought the rights of the Company were greatly infringed." The meeting remitted consideration of the matter to the Master and Assistants, but nothing further appears to have been done.

North Bridge

On 16th October 1775, Bill as to improvements at North Bridge considered.

Volunteers

On 8th January 1778, letter from Lord Provost as to raising a Regiment of Foot, to be called the Edinburgh Volunteers. Company agree to subscribe towards it.

Widows' Fund

On 24th December 1778, the Preses (Thomas Elder) laid before the meeting the "great outlines" of a plan for raising a fund for a provision to the Widows of Members of the Company. This was the first step in the establishment of the wealthy Widows' Fund, founded in 1826-27.

Popery

On 11th January 1779, Company resolve to take into consideration the general alarm spread over this part of the United Kingdom, by a Bill said to be intended to be brought into Parliament to repeal the penal laws of King William against Popery in Scotland. The Company resolved to oppose the Bill.

Watson's Hospital Records

On 19th October 1778, Company being empowered and required by the Statutes of George Watson's Hospital to take all proper care that these Statutes are duly observed, and for that end the Governors are appointed at all times to make the minutes, writings, records, and accounts patent to the Company, or such of their number as they shall authorize; and as, from the opening of the Hospital, the Company had not exercised

cised this power, they now remitted to a special committee to examine these books, papers, and accounts, and to report. On 30th August 1779, Report brought up, considered, and approved of.

City Member

On 23rd October 1780, the Company congratulate Mr William Miller, on his election as Member of Parliament for Edinburgh: certain Members, however, protested against this.

Police Tax, &c.

At the same meeting, it was moved by Mr Hunter Blair, and agreed to, that the Preses write to the Lord President of the Court of Session, the Lord Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer, the Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, and the Keeper of the Signet, that it is the unanimous wish of this Company that these great and respectable bodies of citizens may join with the Magistrates and Town Council, and citizens at large, in an application to Parliament, that the taxes for the support of the police and civil government of this city may be levied equally upon all the inhabitants within the Royalty. The result does not appear.

On 10th June 1783, Resolutions of Company against proposed tax on bills, notes, receipts, and discharges.

Mr James Jollie elected Joint-Clerk

On 1st September 1783, Mr James Jollie was conjoined as Clerk to the Company, along with Mr James Forrest, Writer to the Signet. Mr Jollie continued Clerk for a very long period of years.

On 11th December 1783, Mr John Thompson, Accountant

tant in Edinburgh, asked permission to dedicate *The Universal Calculator* to the Company; and, as it was "a superior work," the Company gave their consent! Book dedicated to Company

On 14th March 1783, proceedings against "unfree traders, —hawkers who open temporary shops in the town," considered. Unfree Traders

On 22nd March 1786, the Company have before them the heads of a new Bill for the support of the poor, transmitted by the Lord Provost and Magistrates, to the Company. Poor

On 9th January 1797, Resolutions against Sunday mails. Company, at same meeting, propose to purchase a new hall. Sunday Mails

On 5th March 1790, Members consider as to raising funds to support a proposed new prison in Edinburgh. Company approve of building of same. New Prison

On 2nd June 1792, Company resolve to meet in their Hall on Monday next, immediately after the public celebration of His Majesty's birth; or sooner, in case of any appearance of riot. The meeting were of opinion that their own Hall was fully a more proper place to meet in than the Council Chamber, which is the rendezvous appointed by the Act of Council in case of mobs; and this alteration in the place of meeting was understood by the magistrates, and met their approbation. Riots

On 7th June 1792, the Company lay down certain rules to check disturbances in the city, and resolve "to subscribe fifty guineas to be given as a reward for the discovery of the leaders and instigators of the late disturbances, or of the writers of any of the incendiary letters, or seditious advertisements, which have lately

lately appeared, it being understood that Members should themselves subscribe without encroaching upon the general funds of the Company.

Town-Council and Merchant Company

On 13th June 1792, the Lord Provost, on behalf of the Magistrates and Town Council, and as directed "by them, presented to the Master, Assistants, and individual Members of the Company, their most sincere and grateful acknowledgements for the very cheerful and ready promise of support and assistance in case of a continuance of the disturbances."

It will have been noticed, from many of these extracts, that the Town Council and Company worked for many years most harmoniously together. Having but one aim, they consulted together in nearly all important local questions, and, hand-in-hand, advanced the interests of the city.

Seditious Meetings

On 11th December 1793, the Company pass resolutions against the "lawless proceedings of a set of persons styling themselves "the British Convention," and in aid of suppressing all seditious meetings."

On 4th September 1797, Company resolve to apply for a new Act of Parliament for enlarging their powers.

Address to the King

On 6th June 1800, at a full meeting of the Company, they agreed to address the King, congratulating him on the failure of "the late atrocious and diabolical attempt against his sacred person."

The first five or six years of the nineteenth century found the Company busily engaged with discussions about a police bill,

bill, the corn laws, the north mail, stamp duty on promissory notes, and taxes on bank notes. Corn Laws, &c.

On 13th November 1806, the Company lost an honoured Member in Sir William Forbes, nephew of Lords Forbes and Pitsligo. He served his apprenticeship with Messrs Coutts & Company, bankers. He became a partner of the concern in 1761, and two years afterwards the well-known firm of "Sir William Forbes, J. Hunter, & Company" was formed. In 1783, they began to issue notes which were received as readily throughout Scotland as the coin of the realm. In 1786, Sir William consented to fill the office of Master of the Merchant Company, but he frequently declined representing the city in Parliament. He also refused an Irish peerage. At one time he was a member of the celebrated "London Literary Club," where he became acquainted with Samuel Johnson, Sir Joshua Reynolds, and other eminent *literati*. He wrote a life of Dr Beattie, which appeared in 1806, and passed through several editions, and he took a most active part in the originating and managing of many of the Edinburgh philanthropic institutions.* Sir William Forbes

In October 1809, the Company formed part of the procession at laying the foundation-stone of a bastion at Leith Docks, the Earl of Moira, afterwards Marquis of Hastings, officiating on the occasion. This day (the 25th October), was held as a Jubilee throughout Company Procession

* Anderson's *History of Edinburgh*, p. 308.

throughout Great Britain, George III. having entered on the fiftieth year of his reign.

Lord Provost Coulter

In April 1810, the Company attended the funeral of the Lord Provost (Coulter), of whom so many curious stories are still extant, amongst others, that on one occasion, when replying to the toast of his health, he assured the Company "that though he had the body of a stocking-weaver, he had the soul of a *Sheepio Afreecanus*," (Scipio Africanus). His funeral was a very gorgeous one. The other two Lord Provosts who have died in office (Adam Brown in October 1711, and Alexander Kincaid in January 1777) had also a public funeral procession.

1810 to 1817 East India Trade, &c.

During the seven years following 1810, the Company, amongst other subjects, had under consideration, trade with the East Indies (1812); a new police bill (1812); the apprentice tax (1812); resolutions against advance on prices at which grain was imported (1813); distillation from grain (1813); proposition for widow's scheme (1813); amendment of the Bankrupt Act (1813); Union Canal (1814); corn laws (1814); trial by jury (1815); resolutions against shop tax (1815); new police bill (1815); enlarged nomination of justices of the peace for the city (1816); restriction on hawkers and petty itinerant merchants (1817); widow's scheme, alterations on Watson's Hospital statutes, and burgh reform.

The 19th of November 1817 was a day of mourning in Edinburgh

Death of Princess Charlotte

Edinburgh—the burial day of the Princess Charlotte of Wales (the presumptive heiress to the British throne, and consort of Prince Leopold of Saxe-Coburg), and her child. The Company approved of suspending business that day, "as a becoming tribute to the memory of this most amiable and excellent Princess, whose unlooked-for death had involved the whole country in the deepest affliction." Shortly afterward, the Company resolved on an Address to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, and another to the Prince of Saxe-Coburg, on the death of the Princess.

Gas

The gas bill was before the Company this year. In April of the following year (1818), it may be mentioned, the shops and some of the streets were lighted with gas—a great improvement on the old oil lamps.

Post-Office

In 1818, it was proposed to remove the General Post-Office from the Old Town to the Regent Bridge. A considerable number of the Company were strongly opposed to this. Some of the objections stated by the Company to the removal sound curiously at this date. The Company shortly afterwards presented a petition to the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury against the removal; and it may be remarked that this petition runs in the name of "The Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh, who are composed of a very numerous body of merchants, bankers, and retail dealers, *who mostly carry on their business within the antient Royalty of the city.*"

Members in Old Town

About

Burgh Reform

About this time (1817-18), the Company were taking an enthusiastic interest in the then all important subject of Burgh Reform. The matter had been frequently before the Company, and on 17th November 1817 there was a very large meeting of the Company (269 Members) to consider it. Mr Adam Black, seconded by Mr Archibald Anderson, moved as follows:

Supported by Company

First, That this Company views with great satisfaction the exertions now making to introduce into the Scottish Burghs a more rational and liberal system of town polity, and considers the sound and enlightened principles displayed at the set of Montrose, so congenial to the spirit of the British Constitution, as reflecting the highest honour on the Lord-Advocate of Scotland and his Majesty's Privy Council, and eminently conducive to the welfare of the community, and the respectability of the Magistracy.

Second, That this Company being deeply interested in every thing connected with the good of the city; and being the only chartered body of Merchant Burgesses, consider themselves particularly called upon to use every exertion to procure for the Burgesses that influence in the administration of their own affairs to which they are entitled, and to promote such improvements in the set of the city as will conduce to their prosperity.

The Master, seconded by Mr Samuel Anderson, moved certain counter resolutions, to the effect that Mr Black's should be rejected; but, on a division, 176 voted with Mr Adam Black, and only 87 against him.

On 10th August 1818, after hearing a report from the Burgh Reform Committee, Mr Adam Black moved "that the

Burgh Reform

the sum of one hundred guineas be voted from the funds of the Company, to be placed at the disposal of the Committees who have united for the purpose of endeavouring to procure a more liberal system of town polity." A counter motion was made, on the ground that the grant "was contrary to the Company's Charter, and injurious to the interests of their poor," and a number of Members being impressed with this view, and others taking the same side on different grounds, Mr Black's motion was lost by 103 to 75. Immediately afterwards, a private subscription was commenced amongst the Members, and nearly £200 raised in a few days.

Opposition Leets

The discussions at this time led to some temporary party-feeling amongst the Members; and at a meeting of the Master and Assistants, it was stated that it was in contemplation by some of the Members to propose leets of the Master and Assistants for the ensuing year, without any previous communication with the Master and Assistants. This was found to be the case; as, at a numerously attended meeting of the Company, on 31st August 1818, an opposition leet to that of the Master and Assistants was proposed by Mr Archibald Anderson, seconded by Mr Archibald Craig. The meeting was nearly equally divided, but the Master declared that the majority was in favour of his motion; a declaration that was afterwards unsuccessfully called in question. The leet of 3 for Master, 36 for Assistants, and 3 for Treasurer, lay on the table, according to custom, till the next meeting, on the 7th September,

September, at which there was again a very large attendance —258 Members. A motion that the minutes of the previous general meeting "be not approved of," on the ground of the alleged mistake as to the division, was negatived by 143 to 123. Sir William Forbes, Bart., as Master, the twelve Assistants, and the Treasurer, were then appointed.

Lord Cockburn on Merchant Company

It is in reference to the divisions at these last-mentioned meetings, that Lord Cockburn amusingly refers, in his *Memorials of his Time*. We extract a few sentences :—

"The natural tendency of the folly of the Government in the Burgh Reform question, appeared this year in certain civic proceedings, which, though of no importance in themselves now, are curious historically, and as marking the gradual but rapid rise of popular opinion.

"The *Merchant Company of Edinburgh*, instituted in 1681, was the only respectable mercantile body this unmercantile place possessed. And it had considerable influence . . . Individually, its magnates were very good men, but publicly, its 'Master' and his 'Twelve Assistants' were a King and a House of Lords without the Commons. The people, however, had their Peter Wentworths, who now began to shew that they were no longer to be frightened by hard words. In August 1818, the great men of the last generation were confounded by hearing it seriously proposed to give £100 of the funds in aid of Burgh Reform, which the opponents of this measure now treated as merely a Whig and Tory question. The revolutionary motion was rejected, but only by a small majority. The victory of its authors was, however, complete when they were within two votes of annihilating the system altogether, on a motion denying the Master's privilege of appointing the other office-bearers, and claiming this power for the Company at large. On this the old school withdrew; and the Society has since managed its own affairs, and obtained due public weight."

The

1818 to 1822

The two or three subsequent years—for we must abbreviate our Notes—were partly taken up with meetings as to checking contagious fevers (1818); an Address to the Prince Regent on death of the Queen (1818); qualifications of Members (1819); legacy of £105 from Mr Andrew Mein, a Member of the Company (1819); Widows' Scheme (1819); vote of thanks to Sir William Forbes, the retiring Master, "for the trouble he has taken in the Company's affairs, and for the dignity and propriety with which he has fulfilled the duties of the chair" (1819); Address to the King on the death of his father, and on his accession to the throne (1820); Widows' Fund, police bill, extra mails (1820); petition to Parliament as to duties on coal (1820); improvements on St Giles's Church (1821); ferries between Mid-Lothian and Fife (1821); Admiralty Bill (1821); Leith Walk toll-bar (1821); report on Burgh Reform (1821); Bankrupt Act (1821); police bills (1822); road-money bill (1822); Scotch burghs bill (1822); burgh accounts bill (1822); and a number of other matters.

Chamber of Commerce

In many of the above-mentioned actings, the Company's efforts were supported by the Chamber of Commerce, which had been commenced in 1785, and was incorporated in 1786.*

In 1820, the Company very deliberately considered, and strongly

* A very interesting account of the Chamber of Commerce, written by Mr George Harrison, now one of the Assistants of the Merchant Company, was printed in the same Press as these Notes, and for the use of the Members, in 1859. It has since been reprinted with additions.

Restrictions on Foreign Trade

strongly opposed, restrictions on foreign trade. They also petitioned Parliament to remove these restrictions. The following is an excerpt from this able petition :—

"Great Britain and France, it must be admitted, are mutually destined for carrying on an extensive and mutually advantageous trade; and yet the restrictions imposed by both countries have checked, and now almost annihilate this trade. To the petitioners it appears that a modification of the duties on the importation of the wines and the cambrics of France, and on such other commodities as to the wisdom of Parliament may appear to be proper, would tend greatly to increase the demand for the manufactures of this country; and that while this could be done without incurring any loss to the revenue of this country, or any great injury to any class of individuals here, it might be supposed from its liberality, to dispose the French to recede in an equal degree from restrictions on their part."

This petition, as well as many of the other petitions, when read in the light of subsequent events, says much for the far-sighted and liberal views of the Company.

King's visit

Much stir was caused amongst the Merchant Company, as well as other public bodies, by the announcement, in July 1822, of the intention of George IV. to visit Edinburgh in August, no Sovereign of the House of Hanover having before entered the city. On the 2nd August 1822,* there was a general meeting held, at which an Address to His Majesty was agreed to,

* Hitherto, from 1681, it was always the practice to mention in the minutes the names of every Member present at the general meetings; but at this meeting this was not done, nor has it been done since.

King's visit to Edinburgh

to, and the Master and Assistants were directed to wait on His Majesty and present it. The Company agreed, also, to take part in the public ceremonial on His Majesty's progress from Holyrood House to the Castle; and on 6th August, it is intimated, that three hundred of the Members were expected to be present.

The dress to be worn by the Members, like other citizens on the day of procession, was a blue coat, with white vest, and white or nankeen underdress; and it was specially directed that no Member should appear in black. A commemorative ornament was also to be worn by the Company, a figure or emblem (according to the taste of the Members) in silver, or in silk, upon a blue silk ground, of an oval or circular form, edged with a double row of narrow blue-and-white silk ribbon, worn on the left breast. The banner of the Company, made specially for the purpose, displayed the matriculated arms of the Company, painted on a white silk ground; and it was to be borne by the junior Member of the Company, who was directed to take his station on the left of the Master and Assistants, who, on the other hand, were to take their stations in the centre, when the Members came into their places on the street. The place allotted for the accommodation of the Members and their clerks and apprentices, was a space marked off, and extending from Writers' Court to the Fishmarket Close, and was calculated to accommodate 1000 individuals. The Members and those connected with them, were to assemble within

within the Royal Exchange, and be there arranged by the Master and Assistants, who were to wear distinguishing marks, viz., white wands.

It was calculated that nearly 300,000 people saw their Sovereign on his entrance into the city on 15th August. It was on the 22nd that he made a royal progress from Holyrood to the Castle.

Hurrying over a few succeeding years (including the great fire and speculation mania year of 1824), we come to 1826, when a great stir was caused in the Company by the novel occurrence of a contest for the Mastership of the Company. The late Lord Provost, Alexander Henderson of Press, was proposed in opposition to Mr Robert Scott; and, after a keen contest, Mr Henderson was elected, on 4th September 1826, by 148 votes against 136.

Contest for Mastership

Mr Henderson did not long, however, enjoy the office, as he died on 5th February of the following year. His history is instructive. He came to Edinburgh, a boy, from Peebles-shire; engaged, first as an apprentice, and then master, with a seed-merchant; and, by his honourable conduct and industry, made his fortune, became Lord Provost, and afterwards Master of the Merchant Company. He was extremely popular, and warmly promoted all the improvements of the city. The Company offered to attend his funeral, but this was respectfully declined by the family, as it accorded more with their personal feelings that the funeral should be conducted privately.

Lord Provost Henderson

privately. His death raised the novel question of the power of the Company to supply the vacancy of Master of the Company, and Preses of the various hospitals; but, under the advice of counsel, Mr James Moncrieff and Mr John Hope, the Company lost no time in electing a successor.

Precedence over Trades

In August 1827, the Company agreed to take part in another public procession, at the laying of the foundation of the Southern and Western Bridges, on the 15th. The Deputy Lord Lyon made up a programme of the procession of the public bodies, giving a precedence to the Company over the Incorporated Trades. This the Trades disputed. The Company, however, insisted on their rights, and maintained that the same precedence had been given them at the funerals of Provosts Kincaid and Coulter. The matter was referred to Mr Thomas Thomson, advocate, who decided in favour of the Company.

We must now, however, draw towards a conclusion, as we have arrived at a period fresh in the recollection of many of the present Members of the Company; and to give details of recent proceedings would be a work of supererogation.

Widows' Fund

In 1826, the Company, which had for many years before been desirous of establishing a Widows' Fund, finally resolved upon one, and in the following year obtained an Act of Parliament to carry out their views.

Before, however, alluding particularly to this, and the changes thereby made on the entry-dues, it is proper to advert, and

and we shall do so very briefly, to the dues payable to the Company from its institution in 1681.

History of Entry Dues

By the original Charter, as has been seen [*page* 10 *of Notes*], the entrance-dues were £6 Scots (10*s*.), and six shillings Scots (6*d*.) in quarterly payments while in trade. Apprentices to Members paid £3 Scots (5*s*.) on their entry. The practice of exacting apprentice-fees ceased about 1725.

For many years prior to 1777, persons *without* the Patent or Charter—that is, persons of professions different from the description in the Charter, but merchants, burgesses, and guild brethren—were admitted on payment of higher fees than were exacted from persons *within* the Patent; but from 1681 down to 1777, the entrance fees of Members within the Patent had continued at the original sum of £6 Scots, and 6*s*. Scots, or £2 sterling, including the purchase of the quarter dues. In 1777, however, the Company obtained a new Charter from King George III. [*see Appendix*], authorizing them to exact £6 sterling, and 6*s*. sterling, in place of the former fees. After this Charter was obtained the entrance fee exacted from Members within the Patent was fixed at £10, including the purchase of annual dues, and from those without the Patent, at £20. Soon after obtaining the Act of 1777, the Company increased rapidly in numbers, particularly of persons without the Patent, or "Non-Patent" Members, as they were called. The accession made to the stock of the Company by the admission of this latter class of Members, between 1783 and 1797, was more than

History of Entry Dues

than a fourth part of the whole accumulated capital of the Company. In 1798, the Company again resolved to raise the entry dues. Power was accordingly obtained [*see Act in Appendix*], and the fees were raised from £6 sterling, and 6*s*. sterling, to £12 sterling of entry-money, and 9*s*. of annual dues; while power was obtained to exact from every entrant, over and above these fees, £1, 10*s*. sterling, for each year after the first two he had, at his admission, carried on business. By this Act, it was declared that, whereas "it hath been the practice of the said Company to admit as Members, and to the benefits, rights, and privileges arising therefrom, persons who do not exactly fall within the description of sellers and importers of cloths, stuffs, and other merchandise, for the apparel or wear of the bodies of men or women, but bankers and others who are merchants, burgesses, and guild brethren, or entitled to be chosen merchant-councillors, or magistrates of the city of Edinburgh. And whereas, the funds of the said Company have thereby been much benefited, and the charitable purposes thereby provided for very materially promoted, and it is therefore expedient that the above-mentioned practice should, under suitable regulations, be continued;" therefore, the Company are authorized "to admit all persons being merchants, burgesses, and guild brothers, or entitled to be chosen merchant-councillors or magistrates of the city of Edinburgh, as Members," each person paying, in name of entry-money and as composition for annual dues, such sum, not less than

History of Entry Dues

than £25 sterling, as the said Company shall, in the circumstances of each particular case, deem adequate and reasonable." Upon the passing of this Act, the Company fixed the fees of entry-money of Patent Members at £18, in which was included £6 as the purchase of the annual dues; and the fees of entry of Non-Patent Members at £25 sterling; and both descriptions paid 30*s.* more for every year but two they had carried on business at their entrance to the Company. Afterwards, the sum of the annual dues was fixed at £9 (equal to 20 years' purchase), which raised the entrance fees from £18 to £21, to Patent Members; and the fees of Non-Patent Members was, at the same time, raised to £42; both continuing to pay the 30*s.* of business tax.

The following figures shew how much the Company increased in property, under their enlarged powers.

Abstract State of Annual Sums received from Entrants since the Act of Parliament 1798, *and down to* 1820.

Year.	Treasurer.	Total Sum.
1799 to 1802	Mr George White	£690 0 0
1802 to 1805	Mr George Brunton	897 0 0
1805 to 1808	Mr Robert Kerr	907 0 0
1808 to 1811	Mr Adam Freer	1017 0 0
1811 to 1814	Mr Robert Plenderleith	2182 10 0
1814 to 1817	Mr William Phin	2092 10 0
1817 to 1820	Mr Thomas Blackwood	3715 10 0

As will be seen, when we come to the details of the Widows' Scheme,

Scheme Act of 1827, the Company again altered their fees of admission.

Persons admitted

Before, however, taking up this Act, we stop for a moment to note the description of a few of the persons who have been admitted Members both before and since the Act, to shew that the Company has not in practice been restricted to *merchants* in the narrowest sense of the term. Bankers and others, when of high standing in the city of Edinburgh and also in Leith, have been admitted, not a few of whom were and are amongst the most valued and useful Members of the Company.

Take, say from 1703, there is, in addition to many ordinary merchants who were admitted, in July of that year, a writer, burgess, and guild brother; in February 1705, a writer, merchant, burgess, and guild brother; in May 1709, a writer and burgess; in 1720, a wigmaker and merchant burgess; in October 1721, a writer, merchant, burgess, and guild brother.

Many Members admitted resided in Leith, Canongate, and Portsburgh.

The Minutes between 1714 and 1725 are missing, and those for twenty years after 1725 afford no information as to the description of persons entered.

The following, all burgesses and guild brothers, were subsequently admitted:—An insurance broker, a shipbuilder, a corn merchant, the clerk to His Majesty's Printer, a seal engraver, various distillers, a coachmaker, a builder, an agent, a general

general agent, a mail-coach contractor, a mercantile agent, a newspaper agent, a commission agent, auctioneers and appraisers, a contractor, a commercial agent, an accountant, a civil engineer, &c.

Widows' Scheme

We now come more particularly to that important and useful feature of the Company, technically intitled, under the Act of Parliament, "The Widows' Scheme of the Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh"—a Scheme which has, in many instances, been the source of benefit to the families of deceased Members.

In the year 1826, the Stock of the Company had increased, by excellent management, to £31,479, 15*s.* 1*d.* sterling; and the Members resolved to institute a Widows' Fund for making a certain provision, as a matter of right and of law, to the widow of every Member of the Company, who chose to become a contributor to it, and to the widow of every future Member, who, by his entrance into the Company, would, as a matter of course, become a contributor to the Widows' Fund. The rights of the then Members, not becoming contributors to this Fund, to remain untouched; while a sufficient Fund was to be reserved for a provision to decayed Members, and to their widows, in all time coming.

Act of 1827

In the following year, an Act of Parliament was applied for and obtained, for carrying this scheme into effect, and by which powers were conferred on the Company to levy the sum of £63 sterling, from individuals of every description entering with

with the Company in future, of which sum £42 were allotted to the Widows' Fund, and the remaining £21 to the common Stock of the Company, and also to levy £3, 3*s.* from new entrants, for every year they should be in business after two years, before becoming Members of the Company.

This payment is now changed, by a subsequent regulation of the Company, into an Age-tax of twenty-one shillings for each year the age of a new Member exceeds thirty at the period of his joining the Company.

Powers were also conferred on the Company to pay over to the Widows' Fund £30 out of the common Stock of the Company for each Member of the Company, at the date of the Act, who became a contributor to the Widows' Fund, such contributor's widow to have no claim afterwards on the common fund of the Company; and powers were likewise given to levy £10, 10*s.* annually for six years from the then present and future contributors to the Widows' Fund, and also certain Marriage-taxes, according to the age of the parties, with liberty to each contributor to purchase his annual payments for the sum of £50, if such purchase be made on or before the second annual payment of the £10, 10*s.*

Of the then Members of the Company, 276 became contributors to this Fund. At the end of the seventh year of the Fund, the stock of the contributors amounted to the sum of £20,949, 1*s.* 10*d.* It is now about £56,000.

We may note here the entire moneys exigible under this Act

Act, from Members of the Company and contributors to the Widows' Scheme, and mention a few of the many advantages, which flow from Membership. Then, with a few remarks on various general matters connected with the Company, and with a brief reference to the Hospitals, and to the large funds under the charge of the Master, Assistants, and Governors, these Notes will be brought to a close.

THE MERCHANT COMPANY.

Entry Money

The entry money payable by Members on their admission to the Company (exclusive of Age-tax, if any, and certain trifling fees), is now, as shewn, *only twenty guineas*. This sum, small as it is, proves, as has been seen, amply sufficient for the present purposes of the Incorporation.

The twenty guineas are thus applied, in terms of the Act of Parliament:

Application of Funds

1. For the good and utility of the Company.

2. In payment of such allowances or annuities as may be granted to the Members of the Company who are or may fall into indigent and decayed circumstances.

3. In payment of such allowances or annuities as may be granted to the indigent widows of the Members who have died, or of Members in existence at the date of the Act of Parliament, 1827, who may die without

without becoming contributors to the Widows' Fund. [All Members after 1827 must be contributors to the Widows' Fund.]

4. In payment of the expense of management of the General Fund of the Company; and

5. To any other purposes to which the said Fund may be lawfully applied in terms of the Charters and Acts of Parliament, and according to the lawful usages of the Company.

Age Tax

If a Member exceeds the age of 30 years, it becomes necessary to exact, in addition to the £21, an equalizing Age-tax of £1, 1s. (*i.e.*, interest at five per cent. on £21), for each year he exceeds 30. The reasonableness of this tax is very obvious. Without it the following anomaly might any day occur: a person entering at 60 years of age, and for payment of £21, might have grand-children, and perhaps children not past twelve years of age. Immediately on his thus becoming a Member, his children and grand-children would obtain a preferable right to admission into the Hospitals; and in a very few years he himself would, if he required it, become entitled to the pension allowed to decayed Members. It is to obviate such an occurrence as this, that the Age-tax is exacted.

Advantages of Membership

A few of the advantages of joining the Merchant Company may be thus briefly stated:

1. The Member's children and grand-children have a preferable right of admission into George Watson's Hospital, and a right to the Merchant Maiden Hospital; and in the other Hospitals various mortifications enable the Company to hold out additional advantages.

2. These

2. These privileges are of the greatest importance. Many of the children are entitled to them as their birthright—the result of their parents or grand-parents having been Members of the Merchant Company, and having otherwise occupied a respectable position; while education in these Hospitals is, as a general rule, an evidence of respectable parentage.

3. A pleasing feature connected with these institutions is, the warm and affectionate interest taken by the Governors in the children under their charge. The advice given to the boys and the girls on their departure from these institutions, to fight the battle of life, is—"If you find yourselves in difficulties come to us." And that these are not empty words, those connected with the Hospitals know well.

4. Another great advantage is that Members falling into poverty (and who may not?) receive liberal allowances.

5. Members join the Widows' Fund, and thereby secure a comfortable annuity to their widows.

6. The Company, even exclusive of the Widows' Fund, for this small sum of twenty guineas, is thus, as has been truly said, a safeguard for Merchants and their families against the vicissitudes of a mercantile life.

7. Membership in the most influential Company in the city, which, taking, as it does, an important part in great public questions, affecting trade and commerce and the taxes of the people, affords to each Member a channel for bringing his views before the public, and, indirectly, the legislature, through the medium of the Company.

8. The prospect of becoming a director of the Company and of the various charitable institutions under its charge.

We shall now refer to the contributions to, and the benefits derivable by, Members from

THE WIDOWS' SCHEME.

Widows' Scheme

Every Member of the Company, as already stated, must now join the Widows' Scheme. The entry money is £92, but £50 of it, and the interest, may be paid in twelve half-yearly payments of five guineas each.

The advantages of the Fund are considerable:—

1. For this comparatively small sum the Member's widow draws, as a legal right, and not as a gift, an annuity, at present of £25, but which will probably ere long be increased.

2. The capital stock of the Widows' Scheme is so large, and the guarantee of its security so good, that it is perfectly secure.

3. Should the widow again marry, the annuity continues, but is not subject to the second husband's debts or control. It is a certain means of livelihood for her.

4. Two great additional advantages of this Fund are, that (1), it is almost absolutely free from that heavy burden on other insurance funds, viz., expenses of management; and (2), that there are no further payments of any kind.

Marriage Tax

On much the same principle as that stated in regard to the Age-tax, it becomes necessary, if a new Member of the Scheme is, on his admission, married, or if not, when he does marry, to exact from him a Marriage-tax of £2, 10*s*. for each complete year, after the first five, the age of the Member exceeds that of his wife. If, however, he marries the widow of a former Member of the Scheme, he is exempted from this tax altogether, unless,

less, of course, on her death he should marry another person, not a contributor's widow. For the purpose of illustration, we give a few more figures:

Total Entry Moneys

1st Illustration—shewing Entry Money by a Member aged 30, or under, and unmarried:—

To the Company	£21	0	0
To the Widows' Fund	92	0	0
Other Fees	1	11	6
	£114	11	6*

2nd Illustration.—When a Member is 32 years of age, is married to other than a contributor's widow, and his wife is six years younger than himself:—

To the Company	£21	0	0		
Do. Age-tax	2	2	0		
				£23	2 0
To the Widows' Fund	92	0	0		
Do. Marriage-tax	2	10	0		
				94	10 0
				117	12 0
Other Fees				1	11 6
				£119	3 6

3rd Illustration—shewing the Entry Money at any age:—

Add to the above £119, 3*s.* 6*d.*, one guinea for each year his age exceeds 32, and if married, 50*s.* of Marriage-tax for each year his age exceeds his wife's above six.

We

* If the applicant is not a Burgess and Guild Brother, he requires, in addition, to pay for his Guild Ticket £10, 5*s.*, unless he is entitled to enter through his father or the father of his wife, in which case the expense is only £8, 5*s.* As the only privilege of the Guild since the Reform Bill, is the right to elect a Dean, it is for consideration whether these fees should not be reduced, at least as regards application for admission to the Company.

We shall now glance at a few general matters connected with the Company, not hitherto mentioned.

Paving Board &c.

The Company (which is referred to in various Acts of Parliament affecting the city generally) annually elect, as directed by the Act of Parliament, a member of the Edinburgh Paving Board.

The Company elect, also, one of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, under the powers given in the recent Act. The appointment is permanent, and is held by the present Master, Mr Lawson.

Master and Assistants

The Master, Assistants, and Treasurer are elected annually on the first Monday of September. They are the sole Governors, as will be afterwards seen, of Daniel Stewart's Hospital, and their duties as such commence on the same day as those connected with the Company. They are, also, along with others, Governors of Gillespie's Hospital and Free School, and Watson's Hospital; their duties commencing, in the first, on the first Monday of December, and, in the second, on the third Thursday of November. The Master, and the other Company-Governors of the Merchant Maiden Hospital (elected on the third Monday of October), enter on their duties on the last Monday of October. The Master and Assistants are also Trustees on George Grindlay's Estate.

Master's Duties

The Master is also one of the constituent Governors of Dr Schaw's Hospital at Preston, and of the Incorporation of the Orphan Hospital; one of the Trustees under the general Turnpike

pike Road Act; and one of the Extraordinary Managers of the Lunatic Asylum.

Master's Duties

He has, therefore, amongst innumerable other duties, as has been stated by a former Master, "to read all the reports, and advise as to the management of eight [now nine] large estates, situated in different parts of Scotland, besides numerous small properties that claim a share of his attention."

The meetings connected with the Company and Hospitals are, moreover, exceedingly numerous, and often lengthy; and well, therefore, might that Master say, when reviewing his year's labours:—"I must honestly tell you, that the number of meetings has been a severe tax on my time, already thoroughly occupied in other pursuits. I was able to be present at all the meetings, except on one day, when I received notice to attend six meetings at six different places in our city, which fairly baffled me."

Company Presentations

The Company have the following rights of presentation:—

Merchant Maiden Hospital

To the Merchant Maiden Hospital.—Thirteen presentations, viz., ten in their own right, and three on George Watson's Mortification, the latter being restricted, in the first instance, to girls who are children or grand-children of decayed Merchants in Edinburgh, of the name of Watson or Davidson, preferring always the name of Watson.

Trinity Hospital

To the Trinity Hospital.—Two Presentations. *First*, one for an old man or a woman, on George Watson's Mortification,

fication, "of the name of Watson or Davidson, preferring always the name of Watson to the name of Davidson." *Second*, one on Beech's Mortification for a decayed Member of the Company, or for the relict of a Member, or for the lawful son or daughter of a Member, preferring the names of Beech or Drummond, but preferring the former if both claim. This presentation became vacant in September 1848, when, after the usual interval of twelve months, no application having been made by any individual of the name of Beech or Drummond, the Master and Assistants, in place of allowing an out-door pension of £20 to one individual, presented an out-door pension of £10 to each of two unmarried indigent daughters of two deceased Members of the Company, above fifty years of age.

Orphan Hospital

To the Orphan Hospital.—Two Presentations under the deed of settlement and fund, of the late Mr Thomas Tod, merchant in Edinburgh. The right was exercised for the first time in 1827, and the title to do so was admitted by the Hospital. The qualification for admission into this Hospital is, that the presentees be not under seven nor above ten years of age as at the date of election.

Annual Dinner

The Office-bearers of the Company have an Annual Dinner, to which are invited some of the leading men of the city. This is the only acknowledgment the Office-bearers consent to receive for the great trouble and unwearied interest taken in the affairs of the Company. We had a recent illustration of a gentleman

man taking, on an emergency, a very great amount of extra personal trouble, but positively declining any acknowledgment whatever.* For some years the first toast after the Dinner was "The Stock of Broom,"—that being it appears, the symbol of the Company. †

The Stock of Broom

The office of Treasurer is also purely gratuitous; but, as the late Professor George Wilson observed, "it is the frequent custom of the Company to translate the Treasurer, after he has thoroughly learned how wealthy the Corporation is, into its Master, so that he may the more liberally care for the widows and orphans, of whom, to so large an extent, the Merchant Company is guardian. It must be a pleasant task."

Office of Treasurer

An interesting feature of late years in the Company, has been the introduction of an Annual Conversazione, given by the Master.

Annual Conversazione

In this way the Company have had the benefit of Lectures from the late Professor George Wilson,‡ Mr Robert Chambers,

* "George Lorimer, Esq., acted as Interim Collector from the date of Mr Christie's resignation, 14th October 1859, until Mr Whitehead's appointment on 6th February 1860, but declined to receive any remuneration."—*Extract from the Widows' Scheme Annual Accounts*, 1859-60.

† "A modest shrub, but with a great tendency to increase. As such, the constituent Members regarded their Society and plan of charity."—*Mr Chambers*. The artist, it will be seen, has kept this symbol in view in the illustrated head-piece which appears on the first page of these Notes.

‡ *The Industrial Museum of Scotland, in its relation to Commercial Enterprise*. By George Wilson, M.D., F.R.S.E., Regius Professor of Technology in the University of Edinburgh, and Director of the Industrial Museum of Scotland. (Delivered 4th December 1857).

bers,* Dr Coldstream,† and Mr Keith Johnston. To Mr Chambers's most admirable Lecture we have several times referred, and we use the liberty of extracting the following paragraphs from it, on a subject which cannot but be of much interest to those of our readers who may not yet have had the advantage of perusing the Lecture itself,—we refer to the high position held by our old Merchants. The extracts are long, but we are reluctant to abbreviate and spoil what has been so ably written by an honoured Master of the Company.

Lecture of Mr Chambers

Speaking of the Merchants in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries,—

Merchants in 16th & 17th Centuries

"Who, while conducting a considerable wholesale business, and even a little banking, had also retail shops, generally placed towards the public street, and conducted by subalterns. In Edinburgh, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, there were traffickers of this kind, some planted in the great thoroughfares, and some in more retired situations. They were, in some instances, men with pretensions to pedigree—men who took a prominent part in public affairs, entertained princes and sovereigns, founded families, and so forth. Thus, a Hamilton of the house of Innerwick, was what was called a merchant in the West Bow; he acquired lands—he fell as a gallant gentleman in Pinkie Field; his eldest son was the ancestor of the Earls of Haddington; his second son, a secular priest, was Rector of the University of Paris, and one of the Council of the League who offered the French crown to the King of

* *Edinburgh Merchants and Merchandize in Old Times.* By Robert Chambers, F.S.A.Sc., F.G.S., F.L.S., &c., Author of the *Traditions of Edinburgh.* (Delivered 14th February, 1859.)

† *The Merchant the World's Benefactor.* By John Coldstream, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., (Delivered 29th March 1860.)

of Spain in 1591. Contemporary with him, occupying a shop in the middle row of buildings alongside of St Giles's Church, was a similar merchant, named Edward Hope; his father is believed to have been a Frenchman who came to Scotland in the train of the Princess Magdalen, daughter of Francis I., when she was wedded to James V., in 1537. While externally but a shopkeeper in the Luckenbooths, there can be no doubt that Edward Hope carried on foreign trade upon a considerable scale, and was a man of large means; of which last fact, his extensive mansion in Tod's Close, Castlehill, stood a few years ago as good evidence. This worthy merchant was Commissioner for Edinburgh in the Parliament which settled the Reformation, and he afterwards, for Protestantism's sake, bore the brunt of the Lady Mary's gentle wrath. Through his elder son, he was the ancestor of all the Hopes who have since stood so conspicuous in rank, in wealth, and in public service in Scotland; while from his younger son, are descended the famous mercantile family of the Hopes of Amsterdam."

Latter part of 16th Century

Referring to the latter part of the sixteenth century, Mr Chambers says,—

"I may enumerate a few other considerable merchants of this period, all of whom had good houses in the city, where they dwelt as well as carried on business. In what was latterly called Brodie's Close, between Macmoran's and Gourlay's houses, lived William Little of Over-Libberton, at one time Provost, and the ancestor of the family now represented by Mr Little Gilmour of the Inch. It connects merchandise in an interesting manner with professional and literary things, that Clement, the brother of William, was the Commissary of Edinburgh, and one of the greatest benefactors to the infant University. Provost Little's house, dated 1570, was taken down so lately as 1836, having continued all the time an entailed property of the family. The *North British Advertiser* printing-office now stands on its site. Nicol Udwart, an active and wealthy merchant, had a stately house surrounding a square court in Niddry's Wynd; and there King James was living in February

February 1591, when the Bonny Earl of Moray was slaughtered at Dunnibrissle. A neighbour of Udwart, styled Alexander Clark of Balbirnie, also a wealthy merchant, and at one time Provost of the city, gave accommodation at the same time to the Chancellor Maitland. On another occasion, a little earlier, we hear of King James living with William Fowler, who was also a merchant in Edinburgh. The King, it is stated, went out to hunt, promising to return to dinner in Fowler's house at one o'clock. Fowler lived in the Anchor Close, and his house, in which, as we see, he had entertained royalty, was taken down only three months ago by the Railway Access Company. It stood, indeed, in a narrow alley; but it had the advantage of a free aspect over the country to the north of the city. In the Index to the State-Papers connected with Scotland, lately published by Mr Thorpe, William Fowler figures as a partisan of the English Protestant interest, continually engaged in giving information to Sir Francis Walsingham."

Trades

Speaking of the Trades of Edinburgh,—

"We have all heard much of George Heriot, who was made goldsmith to the Queen in 1597, and who, afterwards transplanting himself to London, there completed the fortune which became the means of founding his celebrated hospital. But there was a contemporary Edinburgh goldsmith of even greater importance, in the person of Thomas Foulis, who seems to have been to King James what the Bank of England was to William Pitt two hundred years later. It was a loan from Thomas which enabled the King to march against the rebellious Catholic lords at Aberdeen in 1593. He stood creditor to the King, in the ensuing year, for the sum of £14,598 Scots, and for this James lodged with him two gold drinking-cups, amounting in all to the weight of fifteen pounds five ounces. In May 1601, the royal debt to Thomas amounted to the enormous sum of £180,000 Scots, and a parliamentary arrangement had to be made for its payment. One of the benefits which Thomas Foulis derived from being the King's creditor to so large an amount, was a grant of the lead-mines of Lanarkshire, which

which he worked with good result, and handed ultimately to his granddaughter, who married James Hope, the ancestor of the noble family of Hopetoun. Thus, it will be observed, what constituted, and yet in part constitutes, the fortune of the Earls of Hopetoun, came orginally from one of our Parliament Close goldsmiths."

At a subsequent part of the Lecture Mr Chambers said:—

Early part of 17th Century

"When we pass on to the early part of the seventeenth century, we still find merchants of considerable importance in Edinburgh. They usually are either the descendants or the progenitors of good families. As an example of the former, we may take James Murray, of whose living locality in our city I can say nothing, but who, at his death in old age in 1649, was laid in the Greyfriars' Churchyard. James was a younger son of Patrick Murray of Philiphaugh, and to each of his three sons, by Bethia Maule of the Panmure family, he left an estate. * * * Another of this class was John Trotter, son of Thomas Trotter of Catchelraw. He acquired by merchandise in Edinburgh the means of purchasing the estate of Morton-hall, and thus laid the foundation of a family which still exists in great note and opulence. A third was John Sinclair, a cadet of the old house of Longformacus. Being bred a merchant, as *Douglas's Baronetage* explicitly declares, he realized so much wealth by his business as to be able, in 1624, to purchase the estate of Stevenston in Haddingtonshire, to which he afterwards added other lands, forming in whole a large estate. The King conferred on him a Nova Scotia baronetcy, which is still enjoyed by his descendants. We have a fourth instance in George Blair, a second son of Patrick Blair of Pittendreich. The wealth which this gentleman acquired by merchandise in Edinburgh, was the means of purchasing the estate of Lethendy in Perthshire, to which his son added that of Glasclune. Another may still be added, in James Riddell, of the antient family of Riddell of that Ilk. This gentleman, after pursuing a business career for some time in Poland, where many Scotch youths then found occupation, returned to Edinburgh about the year 1603, set up business there, married a lady of means styled Bessie Allan, and died

died a wealthy man. His son, who became a merchant in Leith, purchased the estate of Kinglass, which he left to a line of descendants."

Further on in his Lecture Mr Chambers added:—

Aristocratic Merchants

"Another particular of the last century may be adverted to—namely, that there continued to be a very great infusion among our merchants of what may be called an aristocratic element. On this subject I am aided by the recollections of the late venerable Clerk of the Company, Mr James Jollie,* extending nearly a century back from the present time. To take the leading firms among the silk-mercers. Of John Hope & Company, the said John Hope was a younger son of Hope of Rankeillour in Fife. Of Stewart & Lindsay, the former was the son of

* Mr James Jollie, W.S., was Clerk for the long period of sixty-three years. He died on 30th August 1846, in the 91st year of his age, and the Merchant Company, as proposed by the Master and Assistants, resolved as follows:—

"In noticing the death of James Jollie, Esq., their Senior Clerk, the Merchant Company willingly record their high estimation of his character, and their deep gratitude for his valuable services during a period of sixty-three years. They will ever cherish an affectionate regard for his memory, and now respectfully offer to his son, Mr Walter Jollie, long his associate in business, and in the service of the Company, and to the other members of the family, their profound sympathy under a bereavement, which, though neither sudden nor unexpected, is not on that account the less severe. On contrasting the present circumstances of the Company, and those of the Hospitals under their care, with what these were when Mr Jollie commenced his period of service, the Company thankfully recognise the kindness of Divine Providence in the prosperity which has marked their progress; but at the same time they cannot forget the many advantages which must have resulted from the high talent, unwearied diligence, and unswerving fidelity, which Mr Jollie uniformly displayed in the discharge of his very onerous duties in watching over and promoting the interests of these Institutions. In the whole of his official conduct, and in the extensive intercourse which he necessarily had with individuals and public bodies, often in very important and delicate circumstances, he ever combined with great powers of mind, an affability and kindness of deportment, which secured from all the highest admiration of his professional talents, and the most sincere esteem for his personal character."

of Charles Stewart of Ballechen, and the latter a younger son of Lindsay of Wormiston. Among the leading drapers: in the firm of Lindsay & Douglas, the former was a younger son of Lindsay of Eglescairney, and the latter of Douglas of Garvaldfoot. Of Dundas, Inglis, & Callander, the first was son to Dundas of Fingask in Stirlingshire, the family from which the Earl of Zetland and Baron Amesbury are descended; the second was a younger son of Sir John Inglis of Cramond, and succeeded to that baronetage, which, it may be remarked, took its rise in an Edinburgh merchant of the seventeenth century. Another eminent cloth-dealing firm, Hamilton & Dalrymple, comprehended John Dalrymple, a younger brother of the well-known Lord Hailes, and a great grandson of the first Lord Stair; he was at one time Master of the Merchant Company. In a fourth firm, Stewart, Wallace, & Stoddart, the leading partner was a son of Stewart of Dunearn. The leading wine-merchants and bankers of those days were also men of family; but this, of course, is the less worthy of remark, as it continues in some degree to be the case at the present day.

Merchandise and the Nobility

That so many landed families amongst us have descended from Edinburgh merchants is no singular fact, for trade efflorescing into nobility is an old phenomenon in the south. There we have a Duke of Leeds descended from the apprentice of Sir William Hewit the goldsmith; the Wentworth Fitzwilliams, from a worthy London merchant knighted by Henry VIII. From the nautical adventurer Phipps, of the time of Charles II., come the Earls of Mulgrave. Cornwallis is from a London merchant; Coventry from a mercer; Radnor, from a silk-manufacturer; Warwick, from a wool-stapler; Pomfret, from a Calais merchant. Essex, Dartmouth, Craven, Tankerville, Darnley, Cowper, and Romney, have all had a similar origin. More recently ennobled families—the Dacres, the Dormers, the Dudley-Wards, the Hills, the Carringtons, have in like manner taken their rise from successful trade. It is an origin surely as honourable as dexterous courtiership, gifts of church-lands, or mediæval robbery and plunder."

We have now, except as to the Hospitals, brought our "Notes"

"Notes" of the Company continuously to a conclusion; and we think we have said enough to shew generally, the nature of its actings during nearly 200 years—the spirit with which it has conducted its affairs—its activity and usefulness in furthering liberal and enlightened views—and in a word, its right to retain the foremost rank amongst mercantile companies in Scotland, and, in local matters, to be considered, what a prominent Bailie in the Council lately called it, *the Sword Arm of the City.*

THE HOSPITALS.

The Hospitals

We shall now advert, though very briefly, to the noble charitable Institutions connected with the Company, which are scattered over all parts of the city, and are the means of doing an incalculable amount of good.

The oldest in date, and the first, therefore, to claim our attention, is

THE MERCHANT MAIDEN HOSPITAL.

Merchant Maiden Hospital

The Company had in hand their own Funds for the "relief and supply of," as their own Charter terms it, "the Members that may fall into decay, and of their indigent Widows and Orphans." But they became early impressed with a desire to establish a special institution for the education and maintenance of female children of indigent Members of the Company. The

Maiden Hospital

The Company had no sooner conceived the idea than they went energetically to work to obtain the necessary funds; and though they had recourse, mainly, to their own Members, yet they sought aid also from other quarters. Foremost amongst those unconnected with the Company was Mrs Mary Erskine, widow of Mr James Hair, druggist, and a connexion, it is understood, of the noble family of Mar. So much interest did this lady take in the Hospital, that it was resolved to use her name as Joint-Foundress along with the Company. Accordingly, in the Act of Parliament, dated 25th March 1707, incorporating the Hospital, it is stated "that the Company of Merchants of Edinburgh, and Mary Erskine, relict of James Hair, druggist in Edinburgh, with the assistance of several noble and generous benefactors, had erected an Hospital for maintaining and educating poor young female children." With so much zeal had the subscription been prosecuted that, before the conclusion of 1696, a sum was subscribed for the "lasses," which amounted to 32,000 merks. For a number of years Members joining the Company paid, in addition to their usual fees, a donation for the Hospital. The Hospital at first was in Bristo Street, but the house there having become too limited, the present handsome building in Lauriston was built in 1815. A good view of the old Hospital at Bristo will be found at page 460 of Maitland's *History of Edinburgh*.

Governors

This Hospital is placed under the management of twenty-two Governors, of whom the Company send thirteen, viz., four from

from the Master and Assistants, eight from the Company at large, and a Physician from the City of Edinburgh. Eight other Governors are composed of three Ministers of Edinburgh and suburbs, and five gentlemen elected annually by the Magistrates and Council from among themselves, which five last come in place of the old Dean of Guild and the four old Bailies. The Earl of Mar is a Life Governor. The Master of the Merchant Company presides at all meetings of the Governors.

The title for admission is—

Qualification for admission

"Being children or grandchildren of such who are or were Merchant-Burgesses of Edinburgh, or Ministers of Edinburgh, Canongate, Leith, or West Church, or who have been Governors of, or Benefactors to, the Hospital;" reserving to Patrons their right of presenting* any girls who are objects of charity, unless by the patronage it be otherwise restricted. Their age must not be under seven, nor above eleven; but they may continue in the Hospital until seventeen years of age. Vacancies are filled up on the last Monday of November and May annually.

Internal Management of Hospital

The internal arrangements of the Hospital are conducted in a most satisfactory manner. The Lady Superintendent and the Teachers are persons eminently qualified for, and take a marked interest in, their duties. The consequence is, that the girls, when they pass from under their charge, are accomplished, and many of them elegant, young women; and, perhaps, it would be difficult to point to a more gratifying sight in Edinburgh, than that exhibited at the Annual Examination, when

* For details of these Presentations see the Annual Printed Accounts.

when these young girls, with intelligence and happiness beaming in their faces, meet to shew the progress they have made in their studies, and astonish visitors by the extent, variety, and excellency of their attainments. It is impossible for even a stranger not to feel a glow of pride at such an Institution being in Edinburgh; and how much more gratifying is it to the Governors, and to the Members of the Merchant Company, who have done so much to bring about these happy results.

From an interesting account of this Hospital, in the possession of Mr Robert Walker, the Treasurer (by whom it was written), we extract the following particulars:—

Mr Walker's Account of Hospital

"The number of girls received into the House has been increased from time to time. At present, the number on the roll is 84. This is not quite so many as the house can accommodate, but is perhaps as great a number as it is advisable to have in one establishment. The age at which these children are received is from 7 to 11, and they may remain in the Hospital until 17 complete. The greater number of the girls who have been received into the Hospital have been daughters or grand-daughters of Members of the Merchant Company, who have fallen back in their circumstances, and to them an education equal, if not superior, to that given to girls in the middle ranks of society, is afforded. The branches taught in the Hospital are, English, including geography, history, composition, &c., writing and arithmetic, French, German, drawing, vocal and instrumental music, physical science, embracing the elements of botany, geology, natural history, chemistry, &c., and likewise dancing and needlework. In addition to these, great attention is paid to the religious instruction of the girls, and the clergyman, upon whose ministry they attend, and who is one of the present Governors,

Governors, has frequently stated that he meets with few young people who are better instructed in the doctrines of Christianity. The girls are also instructed, as far as practicable, in household duties.

"With the view of cultivating their tastes as well as amusing and gratifying them, the girls are taken to any interesting or instructive sights which may be exhibited, such as exhibitions of paintings, &c. They have also an annual excursion, which is looked forward to with much interest, when they are accompanied by the Governors as well as by the Matron and Governesses. In this way they have visited Melrose, Dirleton, Nidpath Castle, Falls of Clyde, &c."

"Saturday is a holiday for the girls, from 11 o'clock, and such of them as have parents or relations in town are permitted to spend it with them, returning to the house at 8 p.m. They have also six weeks' holidays at Midsummer, and a week at Christmas, which they are permitted to spend with their friends.

"On leaving the Hospital at the age of 17, a sum of money for outfit is allowed to each girl.

"During the five years from 1855 to 1860, 61 girls left the Hospital, and it was ascertained that 4 of them were employed as dressmakers, 11 were residing with their relatives, and 46 had either got situations as governesses or were desirous of being so employed. From an inquiry made in 1849, it appeared that there had left the Hospital, between 1st January 1829 and 1st January 1849, 217 girls, and it was ascertained, that of that number there were in situations, 129; married, 49; dead, 14; abroad, 14; occupation not ascertained, 11.

"It may be stated that the girls generally give satisfaction as governesses. Many of them are known to have liberal salaries and to be highly appreciated in their situations; and not a few of them are married and moving in a respectable sphere of life.

"The Matron and the Governesses shew the utmost kindness to the girls under their charge, doing all in their power to gain their confidence and affection; and it is believed that they enjoy this to a great extent. The consequences are, that after leaving the Hospital many of

of the girls continue to correspond and consult with them, in matters of importance, and gratefully acknowledge the care and kindness bestowed upon them in their childhood."

This Hospital has extensive estates, the principal of which is the estate of Peterhead, in Aberdeenshire, which includes the town of Peterhead, held feu of the Hospital, and containing a population of 7900 persons. This property formerly belonged to the Earls Marischal of Scotland, and was forfeited to the Crown after the Rebellion in 1715. It was purchased by the Governors in 1728, and yields a very large return. The Governors are also proprietors of the estates called Ladyrig and Doggerflat, near Kelso.

GEORGE WATSON'S HOSPITAL.

Watson's Hospital

In 1722, the Company received a great accession to their charities in a bequest of £12,000 sterling, by Mr George Watson, a merchant in Edinburgh, who died in that year, and who mortified this sum for the maintenance and education of the sons of the Merchants of Edinburgh, giving a preference to the sons and grandsons of the Members of the Merchant Company.*

Armorial Bearings

On the recommendation of the Master and Assistants, Governors

* Amongst other legacies, he left 5000 merks Scots to Heriot's Hospital, for the maintenance of two children; and this legacy is recorded on the wall of the dining-hall of Heriot's Hospital.—Steven's *History of Heriot's Hospital*. New ed., by Dr Bedford, p. 303.

Governors of the Hospital, as mentioned in their Minute of sederunt, of date 2nd December 1738, the surviving Trustees of Mr Watson matriculated his and the Hospital's coat-of-arms in the Lyon-Office, conform to the following blazon thereof, dated 20th January 1739 :—

"Argent, an oak-tree rising out of a mount fructual proper, surmounted with a fess waved azure, charged with three besants or; above the shield an helmet, befiting their degree, with a mantle gules; doubling argent, and on wreath of their colours, is set for their crest a flaming heart proper, and in an escrol above, this motto, *Ex corde charitas*."

This coat-of-arms, Mr Adams, the architect, affixed to the front of the Hospital. It is to be observed, that the Hospital foundation-stone is at the north-east corner, and is dated 22nd May 1738.

Education

The education and advantages the boys of this Hospital enjoy are great. They receive a thorough English education (including mathematics), and Latin, Greek, and French. They are taught, in addition, drawing, vocal and instrumental music, and dancing, and other healthful exercises. More than a hundred years ago, Maitland, when writing in his *History of Edinburgh* an account of this Hospital, alluded, in rapturous terms, to the manner in which George Watson's boys were cared for. "The treatment of the boys in this Hospital is such, that probably it is nowhere to be paralleled. . . . They are apparelled, in the modern dress, in a very handsome manner,

Maitland's Account of Hospital

manner, more, in all respects, like the sons of gentlemen" than poor children. Then follows an account of their diet, sufficiently amusing at the present day:—

Diet of Boys

"Their diet, from the first day of the month of March to the 1st of November is as follows:—for breakfast, pottage or hasty pudding, with ale or butter milk; and from the 1st November to the 1st of March, pottage and ale. For dinner, from March the 1st to the 15th of June, on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, beef and broth; from the 15th of June to the 1st of August, on the said days, lamb, either roasted or made into hodge-podge; from the 1st of August to the 1st of November, likewise on the same days alternately, roasted mutton, and beef and mutton boiled in the broth; and from the 1st of November to the 1st of March, beef and broth, with plenty of greens and roots, according to the season; with eight ounces of bread and half a mutchkin [half an English pint] of ale each, during the times aforesaid. For dinner, on the Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, milk and half a pound of bread; and for dinner on Saturdays, barley milk, with eight ounces of bread throughout the year; and for supper, bread and ale the year round."

Allowance to Boys

Besides the liberality experienced by the boys in the Hospital, they receive also very handsome allowances when they leave it; amongst others, £50 fees to those becoming apprentices, and a College allowance to those of pregnant genius.

Trades selected by Boys

In April 1859, a return was prepared by the Treasurer of the Hospital (Mr James Young), shewing the different professions and trades selected by 243 boys who had left the Hospital betwixt November 1835 and November 1858.

List

List of Professions and Trades selected by 243 Boys who have left George Watson's Hospital, from Nov. 1835 to Nov. 1858.

Trades selected by Boys

Clerks in Railways, Insurance Offices, &c.,	24
Solicitors and Writers,	18
High School and College,	12
Accountants,	10
Teachers,	5
Haberdashers, Drapers, and Hosiers,	22
Grocers, and Wine and Spirit Merchants,	21
Booksellers,	18
General Merchants,	13
Druggists,	9
Engravers and Lithographers,	9
Sailors,	9
Bakers,	7
Went Abroad,	7
General Agents,	6
Clothiers and Tailors,	6
Brass and Iron Founders,	6
Cabinetmakers and Upholsterers,	6
Printers,	5
Ironmongers,	4
Metal Merchants,	3
Seed Merchants,	3
Engineers,	3
Joiners,	2
Plumbers,	2
Papermaker, Painter, Wood-Merchant, Hatter, China Merchant, Fancy Leather Manufacturer, Broker, Drysalter, Ironfounder, Turner, Boot-maker, Currier, Watchmaker—one each	13
	243

The Governors in 1852 obtained an Act authorizing them to admit day-scholars, and it has been the means of much good.

Estates

The Governors are proprietors of the estate of Cockburn, in the parish of Currie; of the estate of Preston, in the parish of Prestonpans; and of the estate of Spylaw, in the parish of Kelso.

They are also the proprietors of the estate of Merchiston at Morningside, including the Dove Croft (now called Abbotsford Park), and Merchiston Park, and on which numerous handsome villas have now been erected, and feus are being still rapidily given off, the advantages held out to feuars being liberal. The rate of feu-duty is £21 an acre. Grangebank and Boroughmuirhead are also parts of the Estate.

Merchiston Castle

The estate of Merchiston belonged formerly to the Napier family. It has many interesting historical features. "Near to the western extremity of Boroughmuir (says Wilson), the venerable Tower of Merchiston still stands entire, the birthplace of John Napier, the inventor of logarithms, to whom, according to Hume, the title of a great man is more justly due than to any other whom his country ever produced. He was born in 1550." We give a single anecdote of Napier, as he was regarded by his contemporaries as possessed of mysterious supernatural powers:—

"A field in front of Merchiston still bears the name of *The Doo Park* as the scene of one of his necromantic exploits. The pigeons of a neighbouring

neighbouring laird having annoyed him by frequent inroads on his grain, he threatened at length to arrest them *red hand*, and was laughingly dared to catch them if he could. The depredators made their appearance as usual on the morrow, and partook so heartily of the grain which had been previously saturated with alcohol by the reclaiming owner, that he easily made the bewitched pigeons captives, to the no small astonishment and awe of his neighbours."

Governors

Watson's Hospital is placed under the management of twenty Governors, of whom the Master, Assistants, and Treasurer of the Merchant Company form fourteen. The other six Governors are, the Minister of the Old Church, for the time being, or when vacant another minister, [the minister of New Greyfriars at present acts,] and five gentlemen, elected by the Magistrates and Town Council. The Master of the Company presides as Preses at all Meetings of the Governors, and there is no quorum or business unless *six* of the Master and Assistants are present. The Establishment at present consists of about 100 in-door pupils and day-scholars.

The qualification for admission is as follows:—

Qualification for Admission

Resident Boys.—The sons or grandsons of such who are or were Merchants, Burgesses, and Guild Brothers of Edinburgh, or Ministers of the Old Church of Edinburgh; those of the name of Watson being always to be preferred in the first place, and those of the name of Davidson in the second place. In case of a competition the children or grandchildren of the Members of the Merchant Company, and of the Ministers of the Old Church of Edinburgh, are always to be preferred, except they be of the name of Watson or Davidson, who are still to be preferred in the order above set down. The ordinary election of boys is twice a year, on the third lawful day of April and October yearly; and

and boys must not be under seven nor above ten years of age. A donation of £400 entitles the donor to a right of presentation. Various other privileges are granted to donors.

Day Scholars.—Boys shall not be under seven or above twelve years of age, and shall be of the same classes, and of the same description in all other respects with the other boys in the Hospital, and may be kept at school till they attain the age of fifteen years. The election is twice a year, on the third lawful days of April and October.

GILLESPIE'S HOSPITAL AND FREE SCHOOL.

Gillespie's Hospital and School

The Merchant Company had a gratifying proof of confidence in 1798, on the death of Mr James Gillespie, of Spylaw, in the parish of Colinton, an extensive merchant and snuff manufacturer. He having no near relative, conveyed to the Merchant Company his estate of Spylaw and other property, for the purpose of founding and endowing an hospital or charitable institution, within the city of Edinburgh or suburbs, for the aliment and maintenance of old men and women, and for the endowment of a charitable or free school within the city of Edinburgh, or suburbs thereof, for the education of poor boys, who are to be taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. Mr Gillespie died on 8th April 1797, and the Governors, in compliance with Mr Gillespie's will, erected the present Hospital and School, both of which have been productive of a great amount of good. There is perhaps no Hospital in Edinburgh which has greater claims than this on the public; and it is to be regretted that its limited

limited funds prevent it being as useful as it otherwise would be. At present the Hospital contains about forty old men and women, many of whom have occupied superior positions in society, and who are maintained in the Hospital; whilst the school is the means of educating about two hundred children selected from the most destitute classes of the community. Inmates

The Governors had to stand the brunt of some abuse at the erection of the Hospital, as they bought a piece of ground on which stood a venerable old mansion, and its demolition gave offence in some quarters. Wilson, in his *Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Time*, vol. ii. p. 129, thus refers to it and its former proprietors:—

Wrychtis-houis

"Within a like distance of the antient Tower of Merchiston, and directly between it and the town, another old mansion of the Napiers attracted the eye of the curious.

This was the picturesque half-castellated edifice of Wrychtishousis, unfortunately acquired by the trustees of Mr Gillespie, a wealthy and benevolent tobacconist, who bequeathed his whole fortune to found an hospital for the aged poor. By them it was entirely demolished in 1800, and the hospital built in its place. The whole 'walls of the old building were crowded with armorial bearings designed to perpetuate the memory of the noble alliances by which the family succession of the Napiers of Wrychtishousis had been continued from early times. The earliest records of this antient family which have been discovered shew that William Napier, the owner of the old mansion in 1390, was then Constable of Edinburgh Castle, and maintained that important stronghold at the beginning of the following century, with the aid of Archibald Earl of Douglas, and the unfortunate Duke of Rothesay, against Henry IV. at the head of the whole military force of England.' Among the sculptures which have survived the destruction of the building, one is

is built over the doorway of Gillespie's School; having a tree cut on it, bearing for fruit the stars and crescents of the family arms, and the *Dominus est illuminatio mea*; another placed over the hospital well has this legend, below a boldly cut heraldic device, *Constantia et labore.* 1450. and *Patriæ et posteris.* 1513. Altogether there were probably included in the decorations of this single building more quaint and curious allegories and inscriptions than are now left to reward our investigation among all the antiquities of the old town. The only remains of this singular mansion that have escaped the wreck are the sculptured pediments and heraldic carvings built into the boundary walls of the Hospital and a few others."

Lord Cockburn

Lord Cockburn also thus referred to it:—

"A very curious edifice stood on the very spot where the modern building is erected. It was called Wryttes-Houses, and belonged antiently to a branch of the family of Napier.* It was a keep, presiding over a group of inferior buildings, most of it as old as the middle of the fourteenth century, all covered with heraldic and other devices, and all delightfully picturesque. Nothing could be more striking when seen against the evening sky. Many a feudal gathering did that tower see on the Borough Moor; and many a time did the inventor of logarithms, whose castle of Merchiston was near, enter it."

The Trustees of the Hospital are proprietors also, as already said, of the charming and beautiful estate of Spylaw, near Colinton, a portion of which has been feued off from time to time by the Governors. As has been said, "its scenes delight the artist by

* There is a very good view of its position in one of Clerk of Eldin's Sketches, printed for the Bannatyne Club; and an excellent representation of its appearance, from a drawing by Charles Kilpatrick Sharp, in Wilson's *Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Time*, vol. ii., p. 208.

by their beauty, and have often been delineated on canvas; whilst the poet has spread its renown in the sweet strains of Bonnie Bonaly." A part of this estate was feued to Lord Cockburn, and it is to it that he so touchingly and beautifully refers in his *Memorials* :—

Lord Cockburn's House, &c.

"In March 1811, I married and set up my rural household gods at Bonaly, in the parish of Colinton, close by the northern base of the Pentland Hills; and, unless some avenging angel shall expel me, I shall never leave that paradise. I began by an annual lease of a few square yards, and a scarcely habitable farm-house. But realizing the profanations of Auburn, I have destroyed a village and erected a tower, and reached the dignity of a twenty-acred laird. Everything except the two burns, the few old trees, and the mountains, are my own work, and to a great extent the work of my own hands. Human nature is incapable of enjoying more happiness than has been my lot here; where the glories of the prospect, and the luxury of the wild retirement, have been all enhanced by the progress of my improvements, of my children, and of myself. I have been too happy, and often tremble in the anticipation that the cloud must come at last. Warburton says that there was not a bush in his garden on which he had not hung a speculation. There is not a recess in the valleys of the Pentlands, nor an eminence on their summits, that is not familiar to my solitude. One summer I read every word of *Tacitus* in the sheltered crevice of a rock (called 'My Seat'), about 800 feet above the level of the sea, with the most magnificent of scenes stretched out before me."*

Qualification for Admission

The qualifications for admission into the Hospital and School are as follows :—

Hospital.—(1) Persons of the name of Gillespie, from all parts of Scotland. (2) Persons belonging to Edinburgh and its suburbs. (3) Failing

* Lord Cockburn's *Memorials*, p. 254.

(3) Failing applications from persons belonging to Edinburgh and its suburbs, men and women belonging to Leith, Newhaven, and other parts of the county of Mid-Lothian; and, lastly, failing of applications from all these places, persons coming from any part of Scotland; but none are admitted who have not attained the age of 55, or who have an allowance from any other charity; and out-pensioners also are not admitted. Vacancies are filled up on the second Monday of January and July, after such vacancies happen.

Free School.—For the education of boys, who must produce evidence satisfactory to the Governors of their indigent circumstances. No boys are admitted under the age of six nor above twelve years. The elections for admission are twice a year, viz., on the second Monday of April and October.

The Hospital is under the management of 21 Governors, viz., the Master and Assistants, and Treasurer, the Ministers of the Tolbooth Church and St Stephen's Church, and five of the Town Council, elected by the Magistrates and Council.

GRINDLAY'S TRUST.

We cannot give the particulars of "Grindlay's Trust" better than has been already done by a Master of the Company, Mr James Richardson, who, speaking in 1858, said—

"For forty-seven years there has been quietly and successfully managed by the Master, Assistants, and Treasurer of the Company, for behoof of George Watson's and the Merchant Maiden Hospital, a trust, whose proceeds is usually accounted for by an entry of two lines in our Annual Accounts thus:—'Revenue from Legacy by the late George Grindlay.' The circumstance is as follows:—In 1801, Mr George Grindlay, leather-merchant, died, leaving issue an only son.

To

To trustees he conveyed all his property, to be held by them for his son, until he attained the age of twenty-one. In the event of his son's death before that time, the property was then to be vested in the Master, Assistants, and Treasurer of the Merchant Company, in trust for George Watson's and the Merchant Maiden Hospital—the annual revenue to be divided share and share alike betwixt them. In 1810 the youth died, and the property, consisting of lands, houses, and shops, was handed over to your officials, and the revenue applied according to the will of the testator. The lands are called Orchard-field; they lie between the West Church and glebe grounds and Port-Hopetoun, including both sides of the Lothian Road. They were, however, jointly held by the trustees and the late Mr John Grindlay, leather-merchant, West Bow, a member of this Company. No difficulty occurred in working this joint concern, because Mr Jollie's respected father, and subsequently himself, acted as Agent for both parties. My friend and neighbour Mr John Grindlay (who was cousin to George) died last year, leaving, as his residuary legatees, those noble institutions, the Royal Infirmary, the Orphan Hospital, and Gillespie's Hospital. Your office-bearers considered that it would be most beneficial for the interest of the Merchant Maiden and George Watson's Hospitals, that George Grindlay's Trust should become the purchasers of Mr John Grindlay's share of the lands of Orchardfield, and thus concentrate it all in one trust. Suffice it to say, that this has been most pleasantly accomplished with the sanction of the three residuary legatees, and the two Hospitals interested. The annual revenue of the property since 1811 has increased nearly four-fold, and as all the ground is now laid out for feuing, in fifty years hence, when our city becomes more extended, I hope the present rental will increase by four-fold again."*

DANIEL

* Report of Proceedings at Stated Annual Meeting of the Company on 6th Sept. 1858, ordered to be printed and circulated. This Report, and especially the speech of the retiring Master, contains so much useful information as to the Company, that we have quoted from it whenever we had the opportunity.

DANIEL STEWART'S HOSPITAL.

Daniel Stewart's Hospital

This Hospital was founded by Mr Daniel Stewart, an officer in the Court of Exchequer, who died 31st May 1814. The Governors (the Master, Treasurer, and Assistants) have been incorporated by Act of Parliament, and the following is the qualification of boys for admission:

First, poor boys of the name of Stewart; next, of the name of of MacFarlane; and, after them, poor boys in general, of any other name, all residing in Edinburgh or suburbs, including Leith; such boys must be betwixt seven and ten years of age, as at 15th September, and may be either orphans or not. The election takes place in June.

The Hospital, at the Dean, is a very ornamental one, and was built from a design by Mr David Rhind. The grounds around it are not so well suited for the amusement of the boys as the park in front of Watson's Hospital; but, as the Convener of the Education Committee has brought the matter before the Governors, we may expect soon to see the boys there, as well as those in Watson's, indulging in what Byron calls "cricket's manly toil." This is another illustration, among many, of what the Vicar of Berwick recently remarked on, as a distinguishing feature in the management of the Edinburgh Hospitals, viz., the kindly attention paid to *boy-nature* by those gentlemen who preside over these institutions.

The Governors recently purchased the fine estates of Balbardie and Bathgate, the latter including the superiority of the town

town, for £48,000. There is an old mansion-house on the Balbardie Estate. The estates promise to be very remunerative. The town itself lays claim to high antiquity. Malcolm IV. granted to the Monks of Holyrood the church of Bathket, with the land belonging to it. At one period the town and its adjoining lands formed part of the ample possessions of King Robert Bruce, which in 1306 he gave in dowry with his daughter, to Walter the Great Steward, and this marriage introduced the Stuart family to the throne of Scotland.

Dr Guthrie, in the following eloquent description of Edinburgh, alludes evidently to several of the above Hospitals:

"On approaching Edinburgh from the west, after the general features which distance presents, dome, and spire, and antique piles of building, the Castle standing in the foreground, while Arthur's Seat raises its lion-like back between the city and the sea—the first object which attracts the eyes of a stranger, is a structure of exquisite and surpassing beauty. It might be a palace for our Queen—it is an hospital. Near by, embowered in wood, stands an edifice of less pretensions, but also great extent—it is another hospital. Within a bow-shot of that, again, some fine open towers rise from the wood over a fair structure, with its Grecian pillars and graceful portico—it is another hospital. Now in the city, and wheeling round nigh to the base of the Castle-rock, he drives on by Lauriston. Not far away, on the outskirts of the town, pleasantly planted in a beautiful park bordered with trees, stands an old fashioned building—it is another hospital. In his way along Lauriston, within a stone cast of him, his eye catches the back of a large and spacious edifice, which looks beautifully out on the Meadows, the low Braid Hills and the distant Pentlands—it is another hospital. A few turns of the wheel, and before him, within a fine park, or rather

rather ornamental garden, stands the finest structure of our city, a masterpiece of Inigo Jones,* with a princely revenue of £15,000 a year—it is another hospital. The carriage now jostles over a stone; the stranger turns his head and sees but some hundred yards away a large Dutch-like structure, stretching out its long lines of windows, with the gilded ship, the sign of commerce, for weather vane, on its summit—that is another hospital. Our friend concludes, and not without some reason, that, instead of the 'Modern Athens,' Edinburgh might be called the City of Hospitals."

We now give a Note of the capital and revenue of the Company, Widows' Scheme, and Hospitals, which it will be seen exceeds in amount half a million of money.

	Capital.	Revenue.
Merchant Company..	£25,280 9 2	£1,372 13 0
Widows' Scheme....	55,764 12 9	3,336 17 9
Maiden Hospital	127,605 12 1	5,529 6 9
Watson's Hospital ..	177,306 9 6	6,495 6 11
Stewart's Hospital ..	122,504 19 6	3,418 17 3
Gillespie's Hospital ..	49,032 19 10	1,711 15 3
Total,.....	£557,495 2 10	£21,864 16 11

Thus have the charities of the Company, from an humble beginning, attained a most distinguished eminence, and sown broadcast their many benefits; whilst the funds have been accumulated by the zeal and wisdom of the successive Masters, Assistants, and Governors, without any of them having accepted

* Inigo Jones (born 1572, died 1653) is the *reputed* architect; but there exists no documentary evidence to prove this. See Steven's *History of Herlot's Hospital*. New Edition by Dr Bedford, pp. 46, 290.

accepted one shilling, either in its more detailed or general management; all of which have been conducted by themselves, from an enlightened public and charitable spirit. Nor have they scrupled to devote a great amount of valuable time to these duties, notwithstanding that most of them have been conducting, at the same time, the largest businesses in the City.

We conclude these Notes in the words of one of the most energetic of our former Masters, who when referring to the great amount of property under the charge of the Company, eloquently and truthfully exclaimed "*truly a magnificent sum, held for most noble objects,—to shelter the orphan—relieve the widow—comfort the distressed—educate the young—and pour the balm of consolation into the cup of the aged and infirm. Let us, then,* (he said,) *invite every mercantile man to join in upholding this most antient and honourable Corporation, and aid in the work which kind, benevolent, and Christian men have committed to our care.*"

NAMES OF ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.

Since the Appendix to these Notes was printed off, the following gentlemen, being the last six of the twenty-eight who applied for admission during 1862, have been enrolled as Members:—

Anderson, Walter.. Sept. 1862	Livingston, James .... Sept. 1862
Harper, John .... Sept. 1862	Robertson, Robert .... Sept. 1862
Purdie, John..... Sept. 1862	Robertson, George .... Sept. 1862

LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

APPENDIX.

No. I.—Alphabetical List of the Members of the Merchant Company of Edinburgh.

Note.—Owing to the manner in which the first Records of the Company were kept, a few of the early Names are perhaps omitted in this List; but if so, they will be found on reference to the copies of the two first pages of the Record, at pages 13 and 14.

List of Members

Abernethy, Thomas	Mar. 1819	Aitken, Samuel	Dec. 1817
Adam, James	June 1713	Alexander, Frederick	Oct. 1850
Adam, Robert	Mar. 1826	Alexander, John	Dec. 1819
Adie, Alexander James	Sept. 1816	Alexander, John	Oct. 1850
Aikman, Archibald	Mar. 1836	Alexander, Richard	July 1816
Aikman, George	June 1798	Alexander, William	Jan. 1762
Ainslie, James	Feb. 1682	Alison, Alexander	Dec. 1790
Ainslie, James	May 1814	Alison, Andrew	June 1749
Ainslie, William	Mar. 1783	Allan, Alexander	Jan. 1776
Ainslie, William	May 1814	Allan, David	July 1804
Airth, Alexander	June 1835	Allan, James	Oct. 1724
Aitchison, George	Mar. 1840	Allan, James	July 1803
Aitchison, James	Nov. 1818	Allan, John	Aug. 1754
Aitchison, John	Dec. 1782	Allan, Nichol	Mar. 1807
Aitchison, John	May 1844	Allan, Robert	Dec. 1787
Aitchison, William	May 1783	Allan, Thomas	Dec. 1790
Aitchison, William, jun.	Mar. 1814	Allan, Thomas	Oct. 1820
Aitken, Alexander	Mar. 1836	Allan, William	Dec. 1782
Aitken, Andrew	Jan. 1687	Allan, William	Oct. 1799
Aitken, John	Oct. 1691	Allen, James	Jan. 1688
Aitken, John	July 1801	Allison, George	Mar. 1691
Aitken, John, jun.	Mar. 1703	Ancrum, Michael	Jan. 1762

List of Members

Anderson, Alexander	July 1773	Arrol, Thomas	July 1797
Anderson, Alexander	Nov. 1797	Auchenleck, George	May 1709
Anderson, Archibald	Jan. 1783	Auld, John	Aug. 1682
Anderson, Archibald	Nov. 1797	Auld, John	Jan. 1688
Anderson, Charles	Jan 1801		
Anderson, David	Sept. 1815	Baiker, Thomas	July 1797
Anderson, David	Nov. 1818	Bailey, John	Aug. 1694
Anderson, George	Jan. 1790	Baillie, George	Sept, 1712
Anderson, James	June 1725	Baillie, James	Aug. 1745
Anderson, James	Jan. 1761	Baillie, James, jun.	Aug. 1745
Anderson, James	Oct. 1811	Baillie, John	April 1858
Anderson, James	Feb. 1851	Baillie, William	Feb. 1736
Anderson, John	Aug. 1707	Bain, James	Sept. 1729
Anderson, John	Nov. 1790	Baird, Alexander	Dec. 1695
Anderson, John	Mar. 1805	Baird, Henry	Nov. 1690
Anderson, John	June 1812	Baird, James	Sept. 1732
Anderson, John, jun.	Mar. 1826	Baird, James	Dec. 1806
Anderson, John	Oct. 1837	Baird, John	Dec. 1821
Anderson, John	Oct. 1855	Balfour, James	Dec. 1691
Anderson, Peter	July 1797	Balfour, John	Sept. 1731
Anderson, Robert	Sept. 1747	Balfour, John, jun.	Nov. 1798
Anderson, Robert	Oct. 1795	Ballantine, James	Mar. 1807
Anderson, Robert	July 1797	Ballantine, James	Mar. 1859
Anderson, Robert	Oct. 1812	Ballantyne, James	Feb. 1703
Anderson, Robert	Nov. 1831	Ballantyne, James	Oct. 1811
Anderson, Samuel	Oct. 1788	Balmain, John	April 1813
Anderson, William	Nov. 1690	Bancks Charles James	Nov. 1825
Anderson, William	Nov. 1790	Bannatine, Richard	Mar. 1796
Andrew, John	Dec. 1786	Baptie, Patrick	Jan. 1710
Angus, Archibald	Sept. 1734	Barclay, George	Aug. 1861
Angus, John	Oct. 1724	Barclay, Robert	Feb. 1736
Angus, John	Jan. 1761	Barclay, William	Jan. 1765
Angus, Robert	Sept. 1731	Barr, Allan	Sept. 1796
Arbuthnot, Robert	Oct. 1746	Baxter, Charles	Feb. 1793
Arbuthnot, Robert	April 1779	Bayne, Robert	July 1803
Arbuthnot, William	May 1814	Beatson, Andrew	Jan. 1766
Archibald, John	Nov. 1782	Beattie, Adam	June 1850
Armstrong, Andrew	Jan. 1790	Beattie, George	Oct. 1842
Armstrong, Fergus	Oct. 1829	Beattie, William	Dec. 1693
Armstrong, Francis	Oct. 1767	Beattie, William	July 1840
Armstrong, John	June 1827	Beg, Allan	Jan. 1731
Armstrong, Robert	Nov. 1809	Beg, George	Jan. 1684
Armour, John	Feb. 1782	Begbie, William	Mar. 1787

Begg, John ..... Mar. 1691
Beich, George ..... Aug. 1708
Bell, Alexander ..... Sept. 1772
Bell, Andrew ..... Aug. 1725
Bell, Andrew ..... Nov. 1810
Bell, James ..... June 1725
Bell, James ..... July 1803
Bell, Peter ..... Mar. 1840
Bell, William ..... Aug. 1711
Bernard, James Alex. April 1857
Bertram, Gilbert ..... Jan. 1759
Bertram, Gilbert ..... July 1797
Bertram, John Archd. July 1797
Berwick, William..... Sept. 1825
Bett, David ..... Mar. 1814
Beveridge, Alex. ..... June 1862
Beveridge, James ..... June 1742
Beverty, Alexander .. Oct. 1782
Biggar, John..... Jan. 1766
Biggar, Robert, jun... Dec. 1787
Biggar, Robert ..... May 1789
Biggar, Walter ..... Jan. 1766
Binning, John ..... Jan. 1688
Binning, John ..... Aug. 1692
Bishop, James ..... Oct. 1799
Black, Adam ..... May 1814
Black, Andrew..... June 1706
Black, John..... Feb. 1752
Blackadder, James .. Nov. 1841
Black, William ..... April 1848
Blackwood, John..... July 1804
Blackwood, Thomas... July 1804
Blackwood, William... Nov. 1818
Blackwood, William... Aug. 1852
Blaik, Hugh..... Nov. 1809
Blaikie, Thomas ..... Sept. 1817
Blair, Charles ..... April 1848
Blair, Francis ..... Feb. 1777
Blair, John ..... Mar. 1763
Blair, Robert ..... Jan. 1846
Blane, James la ..... Jan. 1700
Blance, Louis ..... Sept. 1725
Blanshard, George .. July 1858
Blyth, Benjamin Hall Aug. 1857
Blyth, Edward Lawrence Ireland ..... Aug. 1857
Blyth, Howard..... Aug. 1857
Blyth, James..... Sept. 1815
Blyth, Robert Brittain Mar. 1819
Boak, Duncan ..... May 1728
Bogle, Andrew..... Sept. 1817
Bogle, Robert ..... Sept. 1710
Boig, Adam ..... Sept. 1691
Bonar, Alexander..... Oct. 1788
Bonar, Andrew..... Oct. 1746
Bonar, Andrew..... Oct. 1788
Bonar, John ..... Nov. 1818
Bonar, John, jun..... Nov. 1818
Bonar, Thomas..... Feb. 1793
Bonar, William ..... Nov. 1818
Bonthrone, Alexander Mar. 1805
Bortherston, George... April 1700
Borthwick, Alexander Feb. 1777
Borthwick, Archibald July 1791
Borthwick, James..... Nov. 1818
Borthwick, Patrick ... Nov. 1818
Bow, Robert..... Dec. 1782
Bowe, David..... Oct. 1833
Bowe, James..... Aug. 1858
Bowe, Thomas..... April 1834
Bowe, William..... Dec. 1833
Bowie, Archibald ..... Aug. 1745
Bowie, John..... Dec. 1814
Bowie, Patrick ..... Aug. 1745
Boyd, George ..... Jan. 1758
Boyd, John ..... May 1860
Boyd, Thos. Jamieson Jan. 1860
Braidwood, William... Nov. 1790
Braidwood, William... Aug. 1807
Brand, John ..... Sept. 1731
Break, James ..... Dec. 1802
Bremner, William..... Feb. 1851
Bridges, David ..... Aug. 1775
Bridges, David, jun... May 1814
Bridges, John ..... Sept. 1732
Brodie, James ..... Nov. 1790

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Brodie, James ..... July 1844
Brodie, Francis ..... Mar. 1694
Brook, Adam ..... Jan. 1784
Brooks, Adam, jun.... May 1810
Brooks, John ..... Aug. 1806
Brotherstones, James Oct. 1716
Brown, Adam ..... Feb. 1694
Brown, Alexander .. May 1688
Brown, Alexander .. June 1742
Brown, Alexander, jun. Jan. 1762
Brown, Alexander .. Feb. 1784
Brown, Alexander .. Nov. 1797
Brown, Andrew .... July 1684
Brown, David ..... Sept. 1727
Brown, George..... Mar. 1685
Brown, George..... Dec. 1696
Brown, George..... Mar. 1826
Brown, James ..... Aug. 1686
Brown, James ..... Oct. 1782
Brown, James ..... July 1791
Brown, John ..... May 1690
Brown, John..... May 1692
Brown, John ..... Dec. 1755
Brown, Matthew .... Aug. 1745
Brown, Peter ..... May 1810
Brown, Robert..... June 1802
Brown, Robert..... Mar. 1826
Brown, Thomas .... Nov. 1790
Brown, William .... June 1749
Brown, Walter..... Nov. 1797
Brown, William .... Jan. 1698
Brown, William Henry July 1813
Browning, Matthew... Dec. 1820
Bruce, Alexander .... Nov. 1797
Bruce, George ..... Nov. 1767
Bruce, James ..... Oct. 1804
Bruce, John ..... Sept. 1712
Bruce, Robert ..... Dec. 1852
Bruce, William..... Jan. 1776
Bruce, William..... Nov. 1797
Brugh, Thomas .... Mar. 1711
Brunton, George .... July 1791
Brunton, John ..... Dec. 1770
Brunton, William.... Dec. 1817
Bryce, David..... Dec. 1787
Bryce, James..... Jan. 1832
Brymer, John ..... Aug. 1701
Brymers, Alexander .. Oct. 1739
Brymers, James .... Oct. 1739
Bryson, Alexander .. June 1713
Bryson, George..... Aug. 1692
Bryson, John ..... Aug. 1725
Bryson, Robert..... Mar. 1715
Bryson, Robert..... Nov. 1857
Buchan, Francis .... Oct. 1788
Buchan, William .... Nov. 1790
Buchanan, Patrick .. Sept. 1712
Bullo, William ..... Aug. 1698
Bunkell, Edward .... Sept. 1725
Burgess, James ..... Oct. 1814
Burn, James..... Feb. 1782
Burns, George ..... Oct. 1842
Burns, James ..... April 1701
Burns, Robert ..... Sept. 1816
Burr, Alexander .... Feb. 1821
Burt, Robert, ... Nov. 1806
Burton, James ..... June 1711
Butler, Charles..... Aug. 1746
Butler, John..... Oct. 1782

Cadell, Robert ..... May 1816
Cadell, William .... July 1791
Cadill, Philip ..... May 1816
Caithness, Edward .. Aug. 1740
Calder, Peter ..... Nov. 1797
Calder, Thomas .... June 1829
Calder, William .... July 1797
Caldwell, Robert .... June 1839
Caldwell, Thomas .. June 1701
Callam, George .... Dec. 1811
Callender, David, ... Nov. 1836
Callender, James .... Feb. 1753
Callender, William .. Aug. 1754
Cameron, John .... Nov. 1801
Cameron, Peter .... Aug. 1858
Campbell, Alexander Oct. 1830

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Campbell, Archibald__ Sept. 1735
Campbell, Archibald__ Aug. 1746
Campbell, Archibald__ Sept. 1796
Campbell, Colin ____ Jan. 1699
Campbell, Gilbert __ Mar. 1695
Campbell, James ____ Sept. 1796
Campbell, John ____ Jan. 17c5
Campbell, John ____ Oct. 1707
Campbell, Thomas __ Nov. 1774
Campbell, Thomas B. Oct. 1845
Carfrae, James ______ April 1775
Carfrae, John ______ Mar. 1819
Carfrae, William ____ Jan. 1688
Carfrae, William ____ July 1773
Carmichael, Andrew__ Aug. 1692
Carmichael, Thomas__ Sept. 1772
Carmichael, William__ April 1683
Carmichael, William__ Jan. 1712
Carnegie, Johnston __ Dec. 1836
Carnegie, William __ Aug. 1705
Cars, William ______ Aug. 1720
Carse, John ________ May. 1698
Cassels, Andrew ____ Dec. 1790
Cattanach, William __ Oct. 1832
Chadwick, James____ Dec. 1814
Chalmers, Alexander Dec. 1725
Chalmers, George __ Aug. 1746
Chalmers, John ____ Nov. 1759
Chalmers, Patrick __ Sept. 1690
Chalmers, William __ Jan. 1703
Chambers, Robert __ Dec. 1848
Charles, James ______ Nov. 1790
Charles, John ______ Nov. 1818
Charteris, Henry ____ Oct. 1704
Chesaley, William __ Sept. 1686
Cheyne, Charles ____ June 1742
Cheyne,NinionRichard June 1798
Child, William______ Oct. 1806
Chisholm, John Knox Feb. 1853
Chisholm, Robert __ Nov. 1850
Christie, John ______ Mar. 1826
Christie, John ______ Dec. 1848
Christie, William __ July 1813
Christie, William ____ Nov. 1844
Clapperton, Alexander May 1810
Clapperton, John ____ Oct. 1773
Clapperton, John ____ July 1851
Clapperton, Thomas__ June 1812
Clapperton, William__ Feb. 1752
Clark, David ______ Jan. 1789
Clark, Robert ______ Sept. 1736
Clark, Robert ______ Nov. 1851
Cleghorn, Adam ____ June 1742
Cleghorn, Thomas __ June 1748
Cleghorn, Thomas __ Sept. 1796
Cleghorn, William __ Oct. 1691
Cleland, Alexander __ Jan. 1696
Cleland, James______ Feb. 1697
Cleland, John ______ Aug. 1692
Cleland, John ______ July 1748
Cleland, William ____ Aug. 1807
Clelland John ______ Sept. 1690
Clelland, Robert ____ Aug. 1731
Clerk, George ______ Aug. 1704
Clerk, John ________ Aug. 1754
Cleugh, Robert ____ Feb. 1736
Cleyne, John ______ Dec. 18c7
Cochrane, James ____ Sept, 1794
Cochrane, William __ Aug. 1745
Cochrane, William __ Mar. 1814
Cockburn, Archibald Nov. 1683
Cockburn, Archibald Feb. 1694
Cockburn, George __ Jan. 1699
Cockburn, Robert __ May 1814
Collier, James ______ Dec. 1786
Collin, Lucas ______ Oct. 1814
Colquhoun, Adam __ June 1812
Colquhoun, John ____ Feb. 1682
Colvill, Thomas ____ Sept. 1736
Congalton, Alexander Dec. 1706
Connel, James ______ Oct. 1799
Constable, Archibald July 1804
Cooper, William ____ Oct. 1799
Corlier, John ______ Jan. 1790
Corsbie, John ______ May 1688
Coulter, William ____ Feb. 1782

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Cotton, William ---- Dec. 1852
Coventry, John ---- July 1699
Cowan, Alexander -- Jan. 1813
Cowan, Charles ---- May 1783
Cowan, Charles, jun. Nov. 1790
Cowan, Charles ---- Oct. 1847
Cowan, Duncan ---- July 1791
Cowan, James ------ Nov. 1845
Cowan, John ------ April 1858
Cowan, William ---- April 1775
Cowan, William ---- Dec. 1848
Crabbie, John ------ Jan. 1857
Crabbie, John M.---- June 1862
Crabbie, Muller ---- April 1825
Craig, Alexander ---- Aug. 1691
Craig, Alexander ---- July 1804
Craig, Archibald ---- Aug. 1847
Craig, Archibald ---- Aug. 1857
Craig, Hugh -------- Sept. 1688
Craig, James-------- Feb. 1848
Craig, John -------- Dec. 1817
Craig, John -------- Nov. 1825
Craig, John -------- Dec. 1825
Craig, William------ Nov. 1857
Crawford, Maurice -- Dec. 1802
Crawford, Patrick -- Mar. 1685
Crawford, Robert---- Feb. 1697
Crease, William ---- July 1804
Cree, James -------- Oct. 1857
Creech, William ---- Oct. 1788
Crerar, John-------- Sept. 1825
Crichton, Alexander-- Mar. 1787
Crichton, George ---- Nov. 1818
Crichton, Patrick---- Nov. 1795
Crokat, John ------ Dec. 1790
Crokat, Patrick ---- Nov. 1724
Crombie, Francis ---- Oct. 1795
Crombie, William -- Nov. 1796
Crooks, William ---- May 1709
Crosbie, James ------ Oct. 1684
Crouch, William ---- Dec. 1838
Crystie, James ------ July 1797
Cudbert, Robert ---- Aug. 1693

Cuming, Patrick ---- Sept. 1732
Cuming, William---- Sept. 1706
Cuming, William, jun. July 1739
Cundell, William ---- Nov. 1790
Cuningham, John -- July 1710
Cuningham, Robert -- Jan. 1685
Cuninghame, Robert May 1710
Cunningham, David-- Mar. 1826
Cunningham, Thomas June 1711
Cunningham, Thomas Mar. 1826
Cunninghame, James Sept. 1794
Currie, David ------ May 1844
Currie, James ------ Oct. 1739

Dallas Alexander ---- June 1749
Dallas, James ------ Sept. 1817
Dallas, John-------- June 1824
Dallas, Thomas ---- Jan. 1798
Dallas, Walter ------ July 1719
Dalrymple, James -- Aug. 1720
Dalrymple, John ---- Dec. 1755
Dalrymple, William-- Dec. 1776
Davidson, George---- Nov. 1691
Davidson, John ---- May 1691
Davidson, Thomas -- April 1695
Davidson, William -- Sept. 1687
Davidson, William -- Mar. 1831
Dawson, William---- Nov. 1769
Dawson, William---- July 1791
Deuchar, Alexander-- Mar. 1819
Deuchar, Alex., jun. Nov. 1809
Dewar, George------ April 1775
Dewar, James ------ Nov. 1769
Dick, John -------- Dec. 1783
Dick, John -------- May 1844
Dick, Thomas ------ Sept. 1824
Dick, William ------ Sept. 1764
Dickson, David ---- Oct, 1847
Dickson, James ---- Nov. 1690
Dickson, James ---- May 1814
Dickson, James------ Oct. 1844
Dickson, John------ May. 1706
Dickson, William---- Oct. 1847

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Dickson, William -- Aug. 1858
Din, John ------- Oct. 1721
Doig, Frederick ---- Oct. 1812
Don, John ------- Jan. 1731
Donaldson, Colin---- Nov. 1823
Donaldson, James -- May 1691
Donaldson, James---- July 1724
Donaldson, James---- July 1734
Dott, Aitken ------ May 1860
Douglas, Archibald -- July 1748
Douglas, James ---- April 1832
Douglas, Robert ---- April 1691
Douglas, William---- Feb. 1736
Douglas, William---- Nov. 1796
Dow, James ------- Jan. 1680
Dowall, Arthur ---- Mar. 1695
Dowell, Alexander -- June 1861
Dowell, James ------ Jan, 1850
Dowie, William ---- Feb. 1716
Drummond, James -- Mar. 1822
Dryburgh, John ---- Oct. 1849
Dryburgh, Thomas -- Aug. 1858
Drysdale, William -- Jan. 1850
Drysdell, Robert ---- Jan. 1684
Dudgeon, John ---- Dec. 1790
Dudgeon, William -- Nov. 1818
Dun, William ------ Sept. 1747
Dunbar, George ---- Jan. 1721
Dunbar, Hutchison -- June 1805
Dunbar, Thomas ---- Jan. 1693
Dunbar, William---- Dec. 1691
Duncan, Andrew---- Sept. 1843
Duncan, Archibald -- Dec. 1683
Duncan, George ---- Mar. 1814
Duncan, Henry ---- April 1783
Duncan, James------ May 1814
Duncan, Jas. Sandilands April 1848
Duncan, John ------ June 1691
Duncan, John ------ Nov. 1691
Duncan, John ------ Dec. 1698
Duncan, John ------ Oct. 1724
Duncan, John ------ Nov. 1822
Duncan, Mark ------ Sept. 1794
Duncan, Thomas---- July 1801
Duncan, William---- Sept. 1825
Dundas, Thomas, jun. Feb. 1736
Dundas, William ---- Mar. 1704
Duning Matthew---- July 1734
Dunlop, Archibald -- Dec. 1817
Dunlop, George ---- June 1798
Dunlop, William ---- July 1810
Dunnet, Andrew ---- Oct. 1697
Dunsmure, John ---- Aug. 1740
Dunsmure, George -- Jan. 1751

Easton, John ------ April 1811
Edgar, Andrew------ Feb, 1697
Edgar, James ------ Jan. 1707
Edington, John ---- Nov. 1823
Edington, Thomas -- Nov, 1790
Edmondstone, James-- Jan. 1689
Edmonston, Thomas Sept. 1815
Elder, John -------- Feb. 1682
Elder, Thomas------ Jan. 1769
Elliot, Charles ------ Dec. 1787
Elliot, William------ Feb. 1697
Ellis, Martin-------- Nov. 1790
Elsplin, John ------ Aug. 1740
English, John ------ Aug. 1730
Erskine, Charles ---- Aug. 1685
Esdale, John-------- Jan. 1705
Ewan, William------ Dec. 1808
Ewart, Adam ------ Sept. 1735
Ewing, William ---- Jan. 1711

Fairbairn, John------ Feb. 1817
Fairbairn, Thomas -- Sept. 1821
Fairholm, Adam ---- Sept. 1747
Fairholm, James ---- Sept. 1697
Falkner, Robert ---- Sept. 1817
Falshaw, James ---- Nov. 1861
Farquhar, James ---- Aug. 1740
Farquharson, Chas. H. Nov. 1846
Farquharson, Henry-- Dec. 1786
Farnoles, William---- Aug. 1710
Fenton, Thomas ---- Jan. 1710

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Fenwick, George---- Oct. 1690
Fergus, Robert------ Jan. 1688
Ferguson ---------- Oct. 1767
Ferguson, Alexander-- May 1842
Ferguson, Archibald-- Dec. 1852
Ferguson, David ---- July 1736
Ferguson, John------ Sept. 1708
Ferguson, William -- Aug. 1807
Fergusson, Alexander Jan. 1684
Ferrier, William ---- Nov. 1691
Fettes, William------ Nov. 1776
Fettes, William ---- Nov. 1782
Field, William ------ Sept. 1796
Fife, Alexander ---- Jan. 1825
Finlay, Alexander---- Jan. 1713
Finlayson, George---- June 1794
Fish, John -------- June 1748
Fisher, Charles------ Jan. 1709
Fleming, James ---- Aug. 1682
Fleming, Robert ---- Oct. 1684
Fleming, Robert ---- June 1749
Fleming, Robert ---- Dec. 1820
Fleming, Thomas---- Dec. 1704
Flockhart, William -- April 1857
Foggo, Samuel ------ Jan. 1762
Foggo, Thomas------ Jan. 1761
Forbes, Alex., senr. -- Dec. 1691
Forbes, George ------ Nov. 1818
Forbes, Patrick------ Jan. 1685
Forbes, Peter ------ May 1816
Forbes, Sir Wm., Bart. Jan. 1776
Forbes, William ---- July 1801
Ford, James -------- Aug. 1858
Ford, John H. ------ June 1862
Ford, William ------ Dec. 1808
Forrest, Daniel------ Feb. 1793
Forrest, Daniel, jun.-- Mar. 1819
Forrest, David ------ Jan. 1687
Forrest, James ------ May 1789
Forrest, John ------ Feb. 1704
Forrest, John, jun. -- Oct. 1767
Forrest, John ------ Oct. 1795
Forrest, John Richard Dec. 1848
Forrest, Walter------ Mar. 1763
Forrest, William ---- Jan. 1790
Forrest, William ---- April 1820
Forrester, John------ July 1695
Forrester, Peter ---- Oct. 1779
Forrester, Robert---- Nov. 1782
Forrester, William -- Dec. 1790
Fowler, James ------ Aug. 1713
Fowler, William ---- Nov. 1823
Foyer, John -------- Sept. 1850
Fraser, Alexander---- April 1858
Fraser, Charles ------ Aug. 1731
Fraser, Charles ------ Sept. 1794
Fraser, George ------ Sept. 1794
Fraser, Peter Scott -- Dec. 1827
Fraser, William------ Mar. 1844
Fraser, William ---- Aug. 1709
Freebairn, David ---- Oct. 1779
Freer, Adam ------ Mar. 1787
French, James ------ Sept. 1817
Frier, John -------- Mar. 1813
Frogg, Alexander---- July 1682
Fullarton, William -- Feb. 1685
Fulton, Andrew ---- June 1862
Fyfe, James -------- Aug. 1745
Fyfe, James -------- Jan. 1766
Fyfe, James, jun.---- July 1773
Fyfe, John -------- Jan. 1766
Fyffe, Barclay ------ Dec. 1790
Fyffe, Richard ------ Dec. 1790

Gall, James -------- Nov. 1823
Galloway, Alexander Oct. 1808
Galloway, James ---- Aug. 1705
Galloway, John ---- Dec. 1777
Galloway, William -- Nov. 1759
Galloway, William -- Oct. 1806
Gairdner, Ebenezer -- May 1777
Gairdner, James ---- Jan. 1762
Gairdner, James ---- Aug. 1725
Gairdner, Thomas -- July 1734
Gardner, Andrew---- Mar. 1704
Gardner, John ---- Nov. 1769

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Gardner, John	Nov.	1816	Gleig, John	Aug.	1692
Garvie, Andrew	Oct.	1850	Glen, Archibald	Aug	1816
Gaudie, John	Aug.	1682	Glen, Archibald, jun.	Mar.	1826
Gavin, Hector	Sept.	1825	Glen, John	Oct.	1836
Ged, William	Feb.	1697	Glen, William	Mar.	1826
Geddes, Archibald	Nov.	1790	Glenn, John	Dec.	1790
Geills, Robert	Jan.	1688	Gloag, John	Dec.	1755
Gellatly, Robert	Feb.	1682	Gloag, John	July	1797
Gellatly, William	Sept.	1720	Glover, William	May	1688
Gibb, Fulton	Nov.	1839	Goldie, J.	Jan.	1684
Gibb, John	Oct.	1776	Goldie, Robert	Oct.	1706
Gibb, William	May	1814	Goodsman, James	Jan.	1765
Gibb, William	Mar.	1819	Gordon, Andrew	Aug.	1818
Gibb, William	Dec.	1823	Gordon, John	Mar.	1790
Gibson, Archibald	June	1798	Gordon, Lewis	Oct.	1771
Gibson, David	June	1824	Gordon, Robert	Aug.	1858
Gibson, George	Aug.	1807	Gourlay, Robert	Feb.	1782
Gibson, George, jun.	May	1814	Gow, James	Aug.	1725
Gibson, John	Mar.	1695	Gowdie John	Aug.	1711
Gibson, John	Nov.	1819	Graeme, Patrick	Jan.	1708
Gibson, Patrick	April	1701	Graham, F. S.	Aug.	1692
Gibson, Robert	Nov.	1816	Graham, James	April	1827
Gibson, Robert	April	1833	Graham, R. Murdoch	Sept.	1821
Gibson, William	Oct.	1777	Graham, William	Sept.	1718
Gibson, William	Dec.	1786	Grant, David	Sept.	1713
Gibson, W. Walker	Aug.	1858	Grant, James	Nov.	1703
Gifford, James	May	1814	Grant, John	Feb.	1701
Gifford, John	Nov.	1849	Grant, Lewis	Oct.	1779
Gilchrist, Archibald	Jan.	1770	Grant, Robert	April	1700
Gilchrist, Archibald	Oct.	1788	Gray, Alexander	June	1862
Gilchrist, Edward	Sept.	1816	Gray, Andrew	Oct.	1767
Gilchrist, James	Oct.	1814	Gray, Charles	Feb.	1684
Gilchrist, J. Borthwick	Dec.	1806	Gray, David	Mar.	1706
Gilchrist, Walter	Dec.	1708	Gray, George	Sept.	1732
Gilchrist, William	Nov.	1796	Gray, Hugh	Jan.	1769
Gillespie, William	Nov.	1769	Gray, James	Aug.	1710
Gilmer, Samuel	Dec.	1790	Gray, James	Aug.	1829
Gilmore, William	Mar.	1844	Gray, James, jun.	Jan.	1854
Girdwood, William	June	1812	Gray, James Hall	April	1813
Gladstone, Hugh	Aug.	1806	Gray, John	Jan.	1683
Gladstone, Thomas	Nov.	1790	Gray, John	Sept.	1785
Glassell, Thomas	Dec.	1692	Gray, Mordaunt	Jan.	1860
Gledstanes, William	Feb.	1684	Gray, Robert	June	1691

Gray, Robert ------ June 1691
Gray, William ------ Dec. 1810
Greig, Andrew------ Sept. 1852
Greig, Benjamin ---- Nov. 1825
Greig, John -------- Nov. 1795
Greig, John -------- July 1804
Greig, John -------- May 1816
Greig, Thomas------ Sept. 1815
Green, Charles------ Nov. 1814
Greenlees, Robert---- Oct. 1746
Grierson, Gilbert ---- Nov. 1790
Grierson, Robert ---- Jan. 1688
Grieve, John ------ Sept. 1747
Grieve, John ------ Nov. 1795
Grieve, Robert------ Mar. 1819
Grieve, R. Symington Oct. 1845
Grieve, William ---- April 1858
Griffith, William---- Aug. 1807
Grindlay, George ---- Dec. 1782
Grindlay, John------ Nov. 1814
Grindley, George---- Mar. 1796
Grubb, John Stuart -- Feb. 1856
Gullan, John ------ Nov. 1799
Gulland, James------ Feb. 1860
Gulland, John ------ June 1862

Hackston, William -- July 1683
Hadaway, Patrick---- Dec. 1790
Hadding, George ---- May 1691
Haden, James ------ Mar. 1703
Haig, Alexander ---- Nov. 1818
Haig, James, jun. -- Nov. 1818
Haliburton, George -- Dec. 1725
Haliburton, Gilbert -- Aug. 1732
Haliburton, John ---- Oct. 1739
Haliburton, John ---- Aug. 1740
Halliday, John ------ Oct. 1691
Hall, David -------- Aug. 1706
Hall, Robert-------- June 1798
Hall, William ------ Mar. 1822
Hall, William ------ Oct. 1710
Hall, William ------ Aug. 1739
Hall, William ------ Dec. 1777

Hamilton, Allan ---- May 1688
Hamilton, Archibald Jan. 1685
Hamilton, Archibald Aug. 1745
Hamilton, David ---- Feb. 1777
Hamilton, Gavin ---- May 1723
Hamilton, George -- Aug. 1721
Hamilton, Hugh ---- Nov. 1746
Hamilton, James ---- Nov. 1690
Hamilton, James ---- Aug. 1714
Hamilton, Robert---- July 1709
Hamilton, Robert---- Aug. 1720
Hamilton, Robert---- May 1816
Hamilton, Thomas -- Dec. 1690
Hamilton, Thomas -- Jan. 1825
Hamilton, Walter -- Feb. 1753
Hamilton, William -- Sept. 1721
Hamilton, William -- Oct. 1842
Hammon, Anthony -- Nov. 1816
Harrison, George ---- Nov. 1856
Harris, Robert ------ Sept. 1718
Harris, Thomas ---- July 1797
Hart, James -------- Jan. 1688
Hathorn, Heugh ---- Oct. 1706
Hathorn, William -- Jan. 1712
Hawser, William ---- Feb. 1682
Hay, Adam -------- Nov. 1818
Hay, Charles ------ April 1700
Hay, John -------- Dec. 1787
Hay, Lewis -------- Dec. 1790
Hay, Thomas ------ April 1700
Hay, Thomas ------ Nov. 1825
Hedderwick, Patrick Aug. 1714
Heill, James-------- May 1810
Henderson, Alexander May 1691
Henderson, Alexander Dec. 1802
Henderson, Alexander Oct. 1808
Henderson, Andrew-- Sept. 1717
Henderson, Bernard -- Oct. 1776
Henderson, David---- Dec. 1817
Henderson, Eagle---- May 1844
Henderson, Mungo -- Dec. 1817
Henderson, James -- Sept. 1701
Henderson, James -- July 1797

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Henderson, John ---- Oct. 1721
Henderson, John ---- Dec. 1817
Henderson, Thomas-- Aug. 1788
Henderson, Thos., jr. June 1808
Henderson, William-- Oct. 1800
Henderson, William-- Oct. 1811
Henderson, William-- Mar. 1819
Henderson, William-- Sept. 1824
Henderson, William-- Aug. 1857
Hendry, Robert ---- Mar. 1695
Hepburn, John------ Mar. 1695
Hepburn, J -------- July 1684
Hepburn, Thomas -- Nov. 1754
Heriot, Alexander -- July 1682
Heriot, Thomas ---- Dec. 1734
Heriot, Thomas ---- Oct. 1782
Heriot, Thomas ---- Sept. 1816
Heswell, James ---- July 1851
Hewat, John ------ Oct. 1845
Hill, Peter -------- July 1813
Hill, Robert------- Mar. 1819
Hill, William, jun. -- Nov. 1816
Hodge, Alexander---- Dec. 1716
Hog, Walter-------- Mar. 1734
Hogg, Thomas------ Nov. 1759
Hogg, William------ Mar. 1709
Hogg, William, jun.-- Aug. 1715
Hogg, William------ Sept. 1815
Home, Alexander---- Aug. 1701
Hoome, David ------ May 1688
Hope, Alexander---- Jan. 1765
Hope, John -------- Aug. 1699
Hopkirk, John------ Oct. 1691
Hopkirk, William -- Jan. 1688
Hopkirk, William -- May 1688
Horner, John ------ Feb. 1777
Horner, Leonard ---- Mar. 1825
Horsburgh, John ---- Aug. 1718
Houstoun, Archibald Dec. 1755
Howie, John ------ Sept. 1785
Hume, Archibald---- Feb. 1698
Hume, Archibald---- Aug. 1710
Hume, William ---- Jan. 1762
Hunter, Alexander -- Feb. 1735
Hunter, Andrew ---- Nov. 1790
Hunter, Andrew ---- Oct. 1810
Hunter, David ------ June 1847
Hunter, David ------ June 1862
Hunter, George ---- July 1804
Hunter, James ------ Feb. 1753
Hunter, James ------ Jan. 1776
Hunter, James ------ July 1791
Hunter, John ------ Sept. 1690
Hunter, John ------ Oct. 1690
Hunter, John ------ June 1812
Hunter, Robert ---- Nov. 1691
Hunter, Robert------ Oct. 1697
Hunter, Wm., sen. -- Feb. 1736
Hunter, William ---- Oct. 1776
Hunter, William ---- Nov. 1795
Hunter, William ---- Dec. 1834
Hutcheson, William-- Feb. 1694
Hutchison, Alexander Oct. 1782
Hutchison, Archibald June 1711
Hutchison, David---- Sept. 1706
Hutchison, James---- Oct. 1750
Hutchison, John ---- Oct. 1767
Hutchison, Robert -- July 1690
Hutchison, Thomas-- April 1775
Hutton, James ------ July 1718
Hutton, James ------ Jan. 1721
Hutton, John ------ Nov. 1790
Hutton, Robert ---- Oct. 1706
Hutton, Robert ---- June 1839
Hutton, William ---- Jan. 1688
Hutton, William ---- July 1711
Hutton, William ---- Jan. 1761

Inches, Alexander -- May 1844
Inches, Robert ------ May 1844
Inglis, Alexander---- Nov. 1790
Inglis, Charles ------ Dec. 1824
Inglis, Claud-------- June 1742
Inglis, George ------ Sept. 1815
Inglis, George, jun. -- Dec. 1820

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Inglis, John ..... Oct. 1746
Inglis, Patrick ..... Oct. 1690
Inglis, Patrick ..... Aug. 1754
Innes, Alexander ..... Jan. 1714
Innes, Charles ..... Nov. 1774
Innes, Robert ..... April 1855
Innes, Theodore ..... Sept. 1716
Ireland, Alexander ..... May 1840
Ireland, Thomas ..... May 1810
Ireland, Thomas, jun. June 1830
Irvine, Robert ..... Dec. 1843

Jack, Andrew ..... July 1831
Jackson, Charles ..... Dec. 1699
Jackson, James ..... June 1777
Jaffray, William ..... Dec. 1691
Jamieson, Alexander Sept. 1816
Jamieson, Peter ..... Aug. 1857
Jamieson, Thomas ..... Nov. 1790
Jamieson, Thos., jun. July 1797
Jamieson, William ..... Dec. 1820
Jeffrey, David ..... Aug. 1858
Jeffrey, John ..... June 1862
Johnston, A. Hall ..... Nov. 1819
Johnston, Alex. Keith Jan. 1853
Johnston, James ..... July 1801
Johnston, John ..... July 1804
Johnston, John ..... June 1837
Johnston, John ..... Dec. 1850
Johnston, Michael ..... Oct. 1853
Johnston, Robert ..... July 1797
Johnston, Thos. B. ..... June 1862
Johnston, Sir William June 1839
Johnstone, John ..... April 1693
Johnstone, Patrick ..... Jan. 1684
Johnstone, Robert ..... Feb. 1697
Johnstone, Robert ..... Dec. 1755
Jollie, George ..... Jan. 1688
Joss, Robert ..... July 1797

Kaigan, James ..... April 1711
Kay, Thomas ..... Nov. 1851
Kedslie, Andrew ..... Dec. 1806
Kelso, Francis ..... Feb. 1736
Kennedy, Alexander ..... Oct. 1793
Kennedy, James ..... Oct. 1799
Keir, Adam ..... Nov. 1786
Kerr, Alexander ..... April 1811
Kerr, Andrew ..... Mar. 1859
Kerr, Charles ..... Nov 1790
Kerr, James ..... Mar. 1826
Kerr, John ..... Feb. 1682
Kerr, Robert ..... Oct. 1782
Kerr, Thomas ..... Sept. 1794
Kerr, Thomas, jun. ..... Mar. 1819
Kerr, William ..... Aug. 1708
Kerr, William ..... Nov. 1790
Kerr, William ..... Aug. 1857
Kilgour, James ..... Nov. 1816
Kilpatrick, John ..... April 1705
Kincaid, Michael ..... Dec. 1690
Kinghorn, Alexander April 1859
Kininmont, Alexander Nov. 1825
Kinnear, Alexander ..... Nov. 1790
Kinnear, David ..... Oct. 1793
Kinnear, George ..... Nov. 1782
Kinnear, George ..... Oct. 1830
Kinnear, Robert ..... July 1810
Kinnear, Thomas ..... Jan. 1759
Kinnear, Thomas ..... Nov. 1818
Kirkland, Robert ..... Feb. 1736
Kirkwood, James ..... Sept. 1794
Kirkwood, James ..... Oct. 1812
Kirkwood, Robert ..... Dec. 1820
Knight, John ..... May 1688
Knox, James ..... May 1858
Knox, Thomas ..... July 1856

Lachlan, Joseph ..... Jan. 1765
Laing ..... Aug. 1721
Laing, James ..... Oct. 1776
Lamb, James ..... Nov. 1719
Lamb, John ..... Nov. 1683
Lamb, William ..... Aug. 1695
Lamb, William ..... Feb. 1777

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Landale, George ---- Nov. 1816
Lamond, Alexander-- Nov. 1822
Lamond, John ------ Aug. 1739
Lamond, Peter------ Oct. 1799
Lauder, James ------ Feb. 1736
Lauder, John ------ Oct. 1804
Lauder, John ------ May 1814
Law, William ------ Oct. 1776
Lawrie, George------ Sept. 1816
Lawrie, John ------ Oct. 1799
Lawson, Alexander -- Jan. 1698
Lawson, Andrew M. Jan. 1857
Lawson, Charles ---- Mar. 1826
Lawson, Charles, jun. Jan. 1857
Lawson, George S. -- June 1862
Lawson, H. Graham Jan. 1860
Lawson, James------ Oct. 1782
Lawson, Peter ------ Dec. 1811
Lawson, Robert ---- Dec. 1709
Lawson, Robert ---- Jan. 1860
Lawson, Stephen ---- Oct. 1806
Lawson, William---- Oct. 1782
Learmont, John ---- Oct. 1690
Learmonth, John, jun. Jan. 1789
Leechman, James---- Oct. 1814
Legh, Humphrey ---- Sept. 1710
Lermont, Walter ---- Jan. 1685
Leslie, George ------ Nov. 1782
Leslie, John -------- May 1696
Lewis, James ------ Feb. 1857
Lewis, John -------- Dec. 1814
Libberton, John ---- Dec. 1684
Libberton, John ---- June 1696
Lightbody, Robert -- Sept. 1703
Lind, Adam-------- Jan. 1706
Lind, George ------ Jan. 1688
Lindsay, Alexander -- Sept. 1721
Lindsay, David ------ Aug. 1699
Lindsay, Henry------ April 1761
Lindsay, James------ Mar. 1825
Lindsay, James------ Mar. 1716
Lindsay, John ------ Feb. 1684
Lindsay, Robert ---- June 1725
Lindsay, Robert ---- Oct. 1849
Lindsay, Thomas ---- Nov. 1691
Lindsay, Thos. Steven Dec. 1858
Lithgow, James ---- Nov. 1683
Lithgow, Robert ---- Aug. 1730
Livingstone, Alexander April 1783
Livingstone, Alexander Nov. 1797
Livingstone, Alexander Sept. 1725
Livingstone, Alexander June 1832
Livingstone, John---- June 1749
Livingstone, John -- Oct. 1820
Livingstone, Josiah -- Oct. 1793
Livingstone, Josiah -- Oct. 1847
Livingstone, Josiah -- June 1859
Lizars, Daniel ------ Nov. 1797
Lizars, William Home Nov. 1844
Loch, David-------- Oct. 1722
Loch, John -------- Sept. 1705
Lockhart, Andrew -- Sept. 1690
Lorimer, George ---- July. 1841
Lorimer, James------ June 1748
Lothian, George, jun. Jan. 1758
Lothian, John ------ Jan. 1758
Lothian, Maurice---- Mar. 1814
Lothian, Walter ---- Feb. 1782
Lothian, William---- Mar. 1796
Louthian, George---- Aug. 1691
Louthiane, George -- Sept, 1727
Low, Hugh -------- Feb. 1694
Lucas, Robert ------ Oct. 1806
Luke, Adam ------ Feb. 1817
Luke, John -------- June 1824
Lumsdaine, Archibald Mar. 1814
Lyall, John -------- Sept. 1815
Lyell, Thomas------ Jan. 1708
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M'Alister, Matthew-- June 1742
M'Aulay, Archibald-- Oct. 1710
Macbrair, James ---- Nov. 1818
M'Caskie, James ---- Nov. 1850
M'Clish, John ------ Mar. 1814
M'Craw, John ------ Jan. 1825

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M'Coull, Archibald -- Jan. 1749
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Macdonald, Angus -- Feb. 1782
Macdonald, Donald -- Nov. 1823
Macdonald, Donald -- Nov. 1825
Macdonald, James -- Nov. 1809
Macdonald, James -- Dec. 1823
M'Donald, Robert -- Nov. 1822
M'Donall, James ---- Sept. 1743
M'Dowall, Archibald July 1773
M'Dowall, James, jun. Dec. 1755
Macfarlane, Alexander May 1716
M'Farlane, Andrew-- Sept. 1703
M'Farlane, Duncan -- Sept. 1772
Macfarlane, John F. Nov. 1825
M'Farlane, Wardlaw Aug. 1857
Macfie, John ------ Sept. 1816
M'Gachen, Robert -- April 1779
M'Ghee, James ---- Jan 1693
Macgibbon, Charles -- Mar. 1826
Macgibbon, David -- June 1862
M'Gibbon, Malcolm Aug. 1703
M'Gill, Alexander -- Jan. 1688
M'Gill, John, jun. -- Jan. 1688
M'Grigor, Peter ---- Mar. 1815
M'Hendrie, William Jan. 1688
M'Intosh, James ---- May 1851
MacIvor, Evander -- Sept. 1701
M'Ilwraith, John---- Nov. 1682
Mackay, John ------ May 1852
Mackay, Patrick ---- Dec. 1798
Mackenzie, Alexander Dec. 1813
Mackenzie, Kincaid-- June 1798
Mackenzie, Lewis -- May 1816
Mackenzie, Wm. B. Mar. 1826
Mackill, James ---- Dec. 1782
Mackinlay, Archibald Dec. 1782
Mackinlay, David -- Sept. 1815
Mackinlay, John ---- Dec. 1785
M'Kinlay, Robert -- Oct. 1711
Mackinlay, Robert -- Sept. 1825
Mackinlay, William Dec. 1817
Mackintosh, Rob. T. June 1862
M'Knight---------- June 1725
Mackpherson, Daniel Feb. 1682
Maclaine, Donald---- Dec. 1784
M'Laren, David ---- May 1851
M'Laren, Duncan---- Mar. 1826
M'Laren, James ---- Oct. 1833
M'Laren, John------ Jan. 1758
M'Laren, John------ Feb. 1793
Maclean, Dugald ---- Sept. 1825
M'Lean, John ------Mar. 1798
M'Lean, William---- Aug. 1775
M'Leish, James ---- June 1824
M'Millan, James ---- Sept. 1704
M'Nab, James------ Feb. 1782
M'Naught, James -- Mar. 1819
M'Naughton, James-- May 1777
M'Naughton, Peter -- May 1777
Macpherson, David -- Dec. 1776
M'Pherson, John---- May 1836
M'Phersonne, Elias -- Jan. 1685
M'Phin, Wm., jun. -- Nov. 1819
M'Queen, George---- Jan. 1758
M'Queen, John ---- Mar. 1840
Macredie, Alexander Sept. 1816
MacRitchie, Thomas Jan. 1798
M'Vicar, Neil ------ Aug. 1740
Macvicar, Neil------ Dec. 1776
Maitland, Robert---- May 1691
Manderston, John -- May 1816
Manderstone, Patrick Sept. 1732
Mann, John-------- July 1791
Mansfield, James---- Nov. 1731
Mansfield, James---- June 1745
Mansfield, James---- Oct. 1788
Manafield, John ---- Jan. 1759
Mar, William ------ May 1810
Marjoribanks, John -- July 1801
Marnoch, John ---- July 1797
Marr, James-------- Dec. 1817
Marshall, Andrew -- Sept. 1794
Marshall, Archibald-- Oct. 1845

Marshall, Francis ---- Jan. 1761
Marshall, Francis, jun. Jan. 1784
Marshall, James ---- Mar. 1861
Marshall, Robert ---- Feb. 1824
Marshall, William -- Sept. 1794
Marshall, William -- Feb. 1705
Martin, James ------ Nov. 1831
Martin, William ---- Oct. 1790
Mason, Alexander -- Oct. 1728
Mason, Ebenezer ---- Feb. 1782
Massie, Henry ------ July 1696
Matheson, Alexander Oct. 1854
Mastertone, John -- Mar. 1709
Mathew, George ---- Dec. 1811
Mathie, George ---- Dec. 1700
Mathieson, William-- July 1718
Mathison, Simon ---- Aug. 1727
Maxton, Patrick ---- June 1805
Megget, John ------ Jan. 1789
Meikle, George ---- Nov. 1823
Meiklejohn, Patrick-- Sept. 1796
Mein, Archibald ---- Jan. 1861
Mein, Henry ------ May 1688
Meior, Andrew ---- Dec. 1782
Melliss, Andrew ---- Dec. 1817
Melrose, Andrew---- Sept. 1816
Melville, Andrew -- Mar. 1695
Menelaws, James ---- Dec. 1802
Menzies, Archibald -- June 1713
Menzies, Archibald -- Feb. 1793
Menzies, Graham---- June 1857
Menzies, James ---- Feb. 1736
Menzies, John ------ Oct. 1814
Menzies, John------ June 1851
Menzies, Robert ---- Oct. 1806
Menzies, Robert D.-- Mar. 1819
Mercer, Alexander -- Aug. 1721
Mercer, Alexander -- Jan. 1762
Mercer, George ---- June 1818
Mercer, Walter------ Mar. 1848
Merry, James ------ June 1717
Michie, Thomas ---- Oct. 1767
Middlemass, James -- Oct. 1854
Middlemass, Robert-- April 1858
Middleton, Robert -- April 1697
Middleton, Robert -- Mar. 1703
Mill, John -------- May 1814
Millar, Adam ------ April 1862
Millar, Andrew ---- Feb. 1824
Millar, Archibald -- July 1797
Millar, John-------- Oct. 1693
Millar, John ------ Nov, 1825
Millar, John ------ Mar. 1826
Miller, Alexander---- May 1833
Miller, Andrew ---- July 1804
Miller, David ------ April 1698
Miller, James ------ Aug. 1739
Miller, John-------- Nov. 1825
Miller, John-------- Mar. 1849
Miller, Robert------ Nov. 1811
Miller, William ---- April 1775
Miller, William, jun. April 1813
Millons, David Noble Jan. 1861
Millons, Thomas ---- Mar. 1840
Milne, David ------ Jan. 1765
Milne, James ------ Dec. 1790
Milne, James ------ July 1803
Milne, John-------- Aug. 1852
Milne, Peter-------- Mar. 1859
Milne, Thomas ---- Feb. 1798
Milne, William ---- Mar. 1831
Milroy, Andrew ---- July 1811
Mitchell, Alexander-- Sept. 1723
Mitchell, David ---- Feb. 1697
Mitchell, Francis ---- Sept. 1825
Mitchell, James ---- May 1691
Mitchell, James ---- June 1798
Mitchell, James ---- Aug. 1852
Mitchell, James Peter Nov. 1822
Mitchell, John------ Dec. 1709
Mitchell, Robert ---- Nov. 1816
Mitchell, Robert ---- Nov. 1818
Moffat, William ---- Aug. 1725
Moinet, John ------ Nov. 1849
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Montgomery, Thomas Aug. 1682
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More, John -------- July 1717
More, Robert ------ Mar. 1814
Morison, John ------ Oct. 1800
Morison, John ------ Oct. 1856
Morison, Robert John Aug. 1858
Morisone, William -- Oct. 1716
Morrison, William -- Jan. 1759
Morton, Robert ---- Oct. 1811
Mosman, George ---- Sept. 1721
Mosman, John------ June 1742
Mosman, William -- Jan. 1687
Mossman, Adam ---- April 1856
Moubray, Alexander-- Jan. 1769
Mowbray, Robert---- Nov. 1759
Mowbray, Robert---- Nov. 1818
Muat, Andrew------ Aug. 1745
Muat, John -------- Aug. 1775
Muckle, Alexander -- June 1824
Muir, John -------- May 1789
Muir, John -------- Aug. 1858
Muir, Richard Ged -- Aug. 1851
Muir, William------ Feb. 1827
Muirhead, Claud ---- Dec. 1812
Muirhead, James ---- Jan. 1718
Muirhead, James ---- June 1808
Muirhead, John ---- May 1680
Muirhead, Patrick -- Aug. 1725
Muirhead, Robert -- Aug. 1718
Munro, Henry------ Jan. 1848
Munro, John ------ Jan. 1762
Munro, William ---- Jan. 1765
Munson, Andrew---- Aug. 1684
Murdoch, Archibald-- Dec. 1770
Murray, A. -------- Feb. 1682
Murray, Alexander -- Jan. 1860
Murray, Archibald -- Sept. 1706
Murray, George ---- June 1798
Murray, George, jun. Sept. 1817
Murray, George ---- Dec. 1848
Murray, Gideon ---- July 1698
Murray, Hector ---- Sept. 1817
Murray, Henry------ Jan. 1783
Murray, James ------ Mar. 1709
Murray, James------ Jan. 1751
Murray, James ------ Aug. 1788
Murray, James ------ Dec. 1811
Murray, James ------ July 1816
Murray, John ------ Aug. 1699
Murray, John ------ Dec. 1756
Murray, John ------ Nov. 1799
Murray, Patrick ---- Sept. 1730
Murray, Patrick, jun. Aug. 1745
Murray, Robert ---- May 1691
Murray, Walter ---- June 1699
Murray, William---- Dec. 1754
Murray, William, jun. Nov. 1754
Murray, William ---- Sept. 1815

Nairn, John -------- Oct. 1776
Nairn, John -------- Oct. 1795
Nalder, Francis------ Nov. 1809
Napier, James ------ Aug. 1745
Neall, John -------- Jan. 1765
Neil, Robert-------- June 1807
Neill, John -------- Aug. 1829
Neilson, Thomas ---- Oct. 1790
Newton, Abram ---- Nov. 1797
Newton, Francis ---- Feb. 1697
Newton, Thomas---- Mar. 1734
Nicol, George, jun. -- Jan. 1711
Nicoll, George ------ Aug. 1716
Nicolson, Daniel ---- Aug. 1818
Nicolson, David ---- Sept. 1816
Nisbet, Alexander---- Nov. 1769
Nisbet, Thomas ---- May 1854
Niven, John-------- July 1703
Norie, Robert ------ Aug. 1706
Noullingham, George Feb. 1685

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Oliphant, John ..... Dec. 1690
Oliphant, John ..... April 1712
Oliphant, William .. Nov. 1809
Oliver, John ..... Oct. 1691
Oliver, Robert Stephen Mar. 1825
Omond, George .... Mar. 1814
Ord, George ..... Sept. 1709
Ormiston, James .... Nov. 1825
Ormiston, John .... May 1692
Orr, James ..... Feb. 1824
Osburn, John ..... Feb. 1697
Owen, James ..... Aug. 1720

Pago, James ..... Dec. 1819
Panton, William .... July 1797
Panton, William .... Feb. 1851
Park, Archibald .... Aug. 1858
Parkhill, John ..... Nov. 1708
Paterson, Alexander .. Nov. 1693
Paterson, Archibald .. Mar. 1819
Paterson, David .... Jan. 1790
Paterson, James .... Mar. 1859
Paterson, James .... Mar. 1819
Paterson, James .... Feb. 1684
Paterson, James, jun. July 1797
Paterson, John ..... Feb. 1752
Paterson, Magnus M. Mar 1854
Paterson, Richard .... Dec. 1806
Paterson, Samuel .... Jan. 1769
Paterson, William .. Mar. 1848
Patison, William .... Feb. 1782
Patison, William, jun. Mar. 1819
Paton, Andrew ..... Oct. 1814
Paton, James ..... Aug. 1775
Paton, John ..... Nov. 1729
Paton, William ..... Feb. 1694
Patterson, Thomas .. Dec. 1804
Pattison, William .... July 1813
Paul, Alexander .... Sept. 1806
Pearson, John ..... June 1802
Pearson, William .... Dec. 1782
Peat, John ..... Jan. 1769
Pedden, John ..... Nov. 1691
Peddie, William .... Oct. 1812
Pender, James B. .. Dec. 1841
Peribau, Alexander .. Jan. 1701
Philip, Charles, jun... Dec. 1836
Phin, Charles ..... Dec. 1784
Phin, William ..... Feb. 1782
Phin, William, jun .. Nov. 1819
Pillans, John ..... Dec. 1770
Piper, Edward ..... June 1830
Pirrie, George ..... Dec. 1770
Pirrie, William ..... Oct. 1767
Pitcairn, Alexander .. Oct. 1788
Pitcairn, Archibald .. Dec. 1755
Pitcairn, John ..... Oct. 1788
Pitcarne, George .... Feb. 1752
Plenderleath, Patrick Aug. 1714
Plenderleath, Robert Feb. 1782
Pleydell, John ..... July 1804
Pond, Samuel ..... Dec. 1814
Porteous, Alexander .. Mar. 1706
Porteous, John ..... Aug. 1694
Porteous, John ..... Mar. 1819
Porteous, Robert .... Aug. 1711
Pott, George ..... Mar. 1684
Potts, George H. .... June 1862
Potts, William ..... Jan. 1852
Preston, John ..... Dec. 1690
Pringle, James ..... Jan. 1688
Pringle, James ..... Jan. 1693
Pringle, John ..... Jan. 1688
Purdie, Thomas .... June 1861
Purves, Alexander .. Aug. 1740
Purves, Thomas .... July 1804
Pym, Joseph ..... April 1775
Pyper, Thomas ..... Mar. 1819

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Raimes, Richard .... June 1862
Rainie, Robert ..... April 1859
Ramage, Alexander .. Dec. 1785
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Ramsay, George	Dec.	1790	Richardson, William	May	1844
Ramsay, James	Oct.	1814	Richie, James	Jan.	1687
Ramsay, John	May	1810	Richmond, James	July	1810
Ramsay, John	June	1713	Richmond, John	July	1804
Ramsay, Peter	Nov.	1818	Riddell, Alexander	Feb.	1698
Ramsay, Robert	Feb.	1786	Riddell, George	Feb.	1682
Ramsay, Robert, jun.	June	1798	Ritchie, Alexander	Jan.	1759
Ramsay, William	Feb.	1736	Ritchie, Charles	May	1789
Ramsay, William	Mar.	1763	Ritchie, George	May	1844
Ramsay, William, jun.	Oct.	1788	Ritchie, James	Aug.	1711
Ranken, Robert	Dec.	1820	Ritchie, James	Mar.	1826
Rannie, Thomas	June	1749	Ritchie, Robert	Mar.	1826
Rattray, Thomas	Jan.	1759	Ritchie, William	Oct.	1795
Ravenscroft, Edward	April	1862	Robb, John	Jan.	1761
Reid, Alexander	Dec.	1714	Robertson, J.	May	1722
Reid, Alexander	April	1783	Robertson, Charles	Aug.	1707
Reid, Alexander	Oct.	1795	Robertson, Edward	Dec.	1807
Reid, Andrew	May	1688	Robertson, Gilbert	Dec.	1687
Reid, George	Aug.	1731	Robertson, James	Feb.	1752
Reid, James	Sept.	1796	Robertson, James	Oct.	1800
Reid, James, jun.	Mar.	1819	Robertson, James	Mar.	1815
Reid, John	June	1725	Robertson, James	Dec.	1848
Reid, John	July	1797	Robertson, John	Dec.	1695
Reid, William	Sept.	1815	Robertson, John	Oct.	1795
Reid, William	Mar.	1822	Robertson, John	Sept.	1815
Reid, William	Oct.	1847	Robertson, John	Mar.	1828
Renton, Thomas	April	1705	Robertson, John	Dec.	1858
Renton, William	Mar.	1805	Robertson, Peter	Oct.	1767
Reoch, James	July	1808	Robertson, Robert	Feb.	1697
Reoch, John	Dec.	1817	Robertson, William	May	1699
Rhind, Charles	Nov.	1759	Robertson, William	April	1775
Richard, George	June	1807	Robertson, William	Oct.	1830
Richardson, Francis	May	1833	Robertsone, Daniel	May	1699
Richardson, James	Dec.	1826	Rodger, Thomas	May	1709
Richardson, James	May	1852	Rodger, William	Sept.	1693
Richardson, Jas., jun.	Mar.	1819	Romaines, James	Dec.	1813
Richardson, Peter	Nov.	1818	Rose, Hugh	Feb.	1848
Richardson, Ralph	Jan.	1813	Ross, Alexander	May	1810
Richardson, Ralph	Nov.	1823	Ross, David	Feb.	1692
Richardson, Richard	Jan.	1789	Ross, David	Nov.	1704
Richardson, Robert	April	1834	Ross, William	Feb.	1697
Richardson, Robert	Oct.	1844	Row, John	Feb.	1736

Row, Thomas ..... Jan. 1685
Roy, James ..... Dec. 1858
Rule, Archibald .... Feb. 1697
Russel, John ..... April 1697
Russell, Adam ..... Aug. 1692
Russell, Alexander .. Nov. 1822
Russell, Alexander .. April 1834
Russell, David ..... Sept. 1725
Russell, George Eliza Dec. 1835
Russell, John ..... Oct. 1708
Russell, John ..... Sept. 1732
Russell, Robert .... May 1688
Russell, Robert..... June 1742
Russell, Thomas .... Dec. 1848
Russell, Walter..... June 1713
Russell Walter, ... Dec. 1776
Rutherford, John.... Dec. 1814
Rutherford, John.... Mar. 1815
Rutherford, William Oct. 1739
Rutherfurd, William Dec. 1833
Ruthven, Robert .... July 1804
Rymer, David ..... Mar. 1822

Samuel, Peter ..... July 1851
Samuel, Robert .... Dec. 1755
Sanderson, John .... Dec. 1811
Sanderson, Patrick .. Dec. 1807
Sanderson, Robert .. Oct. 1793
Sanderson, Thomas .. Jan. 1765
Sanderson, Thomas .. Mar. 1796
Sanderson, William .. May 1814
Sanson, James ..... Feb. 1817
Sawers, Charles .... Sept. 1725
Sawers, William .... Dec. 1770
Sawyers, William.... Jan. 1790
Scarth, James ..... Dec. 1790
Scarth, James ..... Nov. 1818
Schaw, William .... Feb. 1715
Scoffier, Joseph..... Oct. 1782
Scott, Alexander .... Aug. 1740
Scott, Alexander .... Mar. 1796
Scott, Andrew ..... July 1810
Scott, George ..... Jan. 1758
Scott, Henry..... Dec. 1817
Scott, Henry, jun. .. May 1244
Scott, James..... Sept. 1747
Scott, James..... July 1791
Scott, John ..... Jan. 1691
Scott, John ..... May 1810
Scott, Peter ..... Oct. 1799
Scott, Peter Redford Oct. 1848
Scott, Richard ..... Sept. 1703
Scott, Robert ..... Aug. 1682
Scott, Robert ..... Mar. 1807
Scott, Robert ..... May 1856
Scott, Robert, jun. .. Nov. 1754
Scott, Thomas ..... Jan. 1688
Scott, Thomas ..... Jan. 1725
Scott, Thomas ..... Sept. 1796
Scott, Walter D. .... Mar. 1840
Scott, William ..... Sept. 1712
Scott, William ..... Nov. 1731
Scott, William ..... April 1753
Scott, William ..... Oct. 1788
Scott, William ..... July 1797
Scotland, William.... Jan. 1765
Scotland, William.... Mar. 1826
Scougall, John ..... Nov. 1790
Scoular, John ..... Oct. 1795
Selkrig, Robert..... June 1749
Seton, Daniel ..... Aug. 1743
Seton, James..... Jan. 1711
Seton, James..... Sept. 1714
Seton, James, jun. .. Aug. 1745
Seton, John, jun.... Feb. 1736
Seton, Robert ..... June 1717
Seton, Walter ..... May 1777
Shand, Francis ..... Oct. 1777
Sharp, Francis ..... Jan. 1789
Shennan, John ..... Dec. 1857
Sheppard, James .... Nov. 1857
Sheriff, Charles .... April 1700
Sherriff, Alexander .. Nov. 1790
Shirriff, Robert..... Dec. 1790
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Sievwright, Andrew-- Dec. 1801
Sime, Thomas ------ May 1856
Simpson, Andrew---- June 1742
Simpson, George B.-- Oct. 1849
Simpson, Henry ---- Nov. 1691
Simpson, Henry ---- June 1699
Simpson, James ---- Aug. 1725
Simpson, James ---- July 1797
Simpsone, James ---- Dec. 1692
Simson, John ------ Jan. 1688
Simson, Robert------ Jan. 1711
Sinclair, James------ Sept. 1815
Sinclair, John ------ Dec. 1787
Sinclair, John ------ July 1810
Sinclair, Malcolm---- Nov. 1801
Sivwright, John ---- Feb. 1697
Skae, David -------- Nov. 1782
Skinner, George ---- Aug. 1706
Small, George ------ July 1813
Smellie, Alexander -- Nov. 1810
Smith, Alexander---- Oct. 1799
Smith, Andrew ---- Jan. 1854
Smith, Donald -- ---- Jan. 1766
Smith, George------ Oct. 1690
Smith, James Taylor Oct. 1812
Smith, Robert ------ Nov. 1797
Smith, Robert ------ Oct. 1804
Smith, Thomas ---- Mar. 1763
Smith, Thomas ---- Sept. 1794
Smith, William ---- Sept. 1747
Smyth, Robert ---- Nov. 1683
Smyth, Robert------ Feb. 1684
Somervel, Robert---- July 1715
Somervill, David ---- Aug. 1767
Sommerville, John -- Jan. 1691
Sommerville, William Feb. 1692
Sommerville, William May 1831
Spankie, George ---- Nov. 1790
Speirs, John -------- Aug. 1705
Spence, David ------ Dec. 1698
Spence, George------ July 1810
Spence, James ------ Jan. 1687
Spence, John ------ June 1742
Spens, Robert ------ Feb. 1697
Spital, James, jun. -- Nov. 1819
Spittal, James ------ Nov. 1797
Spittal, John-------- Nov. 1823
Spottiswood, John -- July 1791
Sprot, Alexander ---- Dec. 1790
Stalker, William ---- June 1709
Stark, John -------- Dec. 1817
Steel, Alexander ---- July 1797
Steele, James ------ Jan. 1751
Steele, Wilkinson -- Dec. 1824
Stein, James -------- Sept. 1796
Stenhouse, John ---- June 1742
Stenson, George ---- Aug. 1714
Stephen, Thomas ---- Sept. 1729
Steven, William ---- Mar. 1822
Stevenson, James ---- June 1798
Stevenson, John ---- Dec. 1834
Stevenson, Michael -- May 1709
Stevenson, Peter ---- Nov. 1759
Stevenson, Roger ---- Jan. 1751
Stevenson, Samuel -- Feb. 1753
Stevenson, Thos. Geo. Mar. 1847
Stevenson, William -- June 1805
Stevinson, Alexander Feb. 1694
Stevinson, James ---- Jan. 1688
Stewart, Archibald -- Aug. 1740
Stewart, Charles ---- July 1714
Stewart, Daniel ---- Sept. 1715
Stewart, David ------ Sept. 1796
Stewart, David------ May 1810
Stewart, George ---- Jan. 1762
Stewart, Gilbert ---- Aug. 1682
Stewart, James ---- Jan. 1707
Stewart, James------ Dec. 1754
Stewart, James------ April 1775
Stewart, John ------ Sept. 1727
Stewart, Malcolm---- Sept. 1794
Stewart, Mansfield -- Oct. 1782
Stewart, William ---- Dec. 1740

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Still, Robert ---- Jan. 1784
Stirling, Alexander -- Aug. 1739
Stirling, James ---- Sept. 1729
Stirling, James ---- Dec. 1776
Stirling, John ---- June 1798
Stodart, Alexander -- Sept. 1817
Stodart, George ---- Dec. 1836
Stodart, James ---- Jan. 1761
Strachan, John ---- Dec. 1714
Strathy, John ---- Mar. 1825
Strong, Robert ---- Nov. 1790
Strong, Thomas -- -- May 1814
Sutherland, David R. Jan. 1847
Sutherland, John ---- Dec. 1817
Sutherland, Thomas E. Mar. 1796
Suttor, William ---- July 1707
Swan, David ---- Sept. 1816
Swan, James ---- Aug. 1719
Swan, John ---- May 1814
Swan, John Russell -- May 1858
Swanson, John ---- Dec. 1852
Swanston, John ---- Nov. 1797
Swanston, Thomas -- April 1857
Swinton, William -- Jan. 1687
Syme, John ---- Dec. 1820
Symmer, John ---- Aug. 1696

Tait, Alexander ---- April 1698
Tait, William ---- Oct. 1840
Tait, William ---- Dec. 1852
Tailour, John ---- Aug. 1739
Taylor, John ---- Aug. 1713
Taylor, John ---- Oct. 1861
Taylor, William ---- June 1742
Telford, Charles ---- Feb. 1690
Tenant, William ---- Oct. 1798
Thin, James ---- June 1861
Thomson, Abraham -- Sept. 1817
Thomson, Alexander Feb. 1701
Thomson, Alexander Mar. 1783
Thomson, Alexander Sept. 1796
Thomson, Alexander May 1844
Thomson, Alexander Dec. 1848
Thomson, Alexander Feb. 1853
Thomson, Alex. S. -- Nov. 1822
Thomson, Andrew -- Aug. 1699
Thomson, Andw., jun. Nov. 1731
Thomson, Andrew A. April 1813
Thomson, Archibald June 1812
Thomson, Charles -- Mar. 1826
Thomson, David ---- Aug. 1703
Thomson, David ---- Feb. 1793
Thomson, David ---- Dec. 1805
Thomson, David J. -- July 1826
Thomson, George G. July 1826
Thomson, James ---- Feb. 1694
Thomson, James ---- Feb. 1793
Thomson, James ---- May 1810
Thomson, James ---- July 1810
Thomson, James ---- May 1831
Thomson, James G. -- Mar. 1840
Thomson, John ---- Jan. 1688
Thomson, John ---- Mar. 1762
Thomson, John ---- Feb. 1793
Thomson, John ---- July 1797
Thomson, John ---- Jan. 1798
Thomson, John ---- May 1810
Thomson, John Deas July 1801
Thomson, John, jun. Feb. 1782
Thomson, Robert -- July 1791
Thomson, Robert -- Mar. 1796
Thomson, Robert D. Aug. 1858
Thomson, Thomas -- Oct. 1810
Thomson, William -- May 1699
Thomson, William -- Dec. 1790
Thomson, William -- Jan. 1798
Thomson, William -- June 1805
Thorburn, George -- Oct. 1827
Thorburn, John ---- May 1816
Thorburn, William -- Nov. 1795
Thorburn, Wm., jun. May 1816
Tod, James Banks -- Feb. 1824
Tod, John ---- July 1841
Tod, John ---- Nov. 1857
Tod, Oliver ---- Oct. 1724

Tod, Thomas ------ June 1749
Tod, William ------ Aug. 1715
Tod, William ------ Jan. 1725
Tod, William ------ June 1742
Tod, William ------ April 1825
Tod, William, sen. -- April 1730
Todd, James-------- May 1699
Todd, Robert ------ May 1688
Toran, Abraham ---- Aug. 1691
Torry, Archibald ---- July 1804
Torry, James ------ Nov. 1769
Toward, Francis ---- Jan. 1703
Trail, James-------- May 1688
Traill, John-------- June 1725
Trotter, Archibald -- June 1749
Trotter, Thomas ---- Aug. 1691
Trotter, Thomas ---- Oct. 1724
Trotter, Thomas, jun. July 1748
Trotter, William ---- Jan. 1769
Trotter, William ---- July 1797
Turnbull, Cornelius -- May 1688
Turnbull, John ----- Jan. 1688
Turnbull, John ---- Dec. 1699
Turnbull, John ---- July 1804
Turnbull, Robert---- Dec. 1857
Turnbull, Thomas -- Sept. 1772
Turnbull, William -- Oct. 1782
Tweedie, Alexander-- Jan. 1790

Usher, Andrew ---- May 1816

Valance, David ---- Dec. 1802
Vallance, George---- April 1843
Veitch, George ---- Jan. 1766
Veitch, Robert ---- Oct. 1705
Veitch, William ---- June 1862

Waddel, William---- Aug. 1807
Waddell, William -- Oct. 1709
Walker, Alexander -- Oct. 1708
Walker, Andrew ---- Aug. 1814
Walker, James------ Feb. 1703
Walker, James------ Sept. 1735
Walker, James------ Sept. 1794
Walker, James------ Dec. 1817
Walker, James------ Nov. 1818
Walker, James------ Mar. 1861
Walker, John ------ July 1791
Walker, John ------ Dec. 1817
Walker, Robert ---- Aug. 1841
Walker, William---- Nov. 1724
Wallace, Alexander -- Dec. 1790
Wallace, Archibald, jun. Aug. 1731
Wallace, Charles ---- Oct. 1767
Wallace, John ------ Aug. 1740
Wardlaw, Ebenezer -- July 1813
Wardlaw, Thomas -- June 1812
Wardrobe, David ---- Jan. 1761
Wardrop, John------ Oct. 1806
Waterston, Richard -- Mar. 1819
Waterstone, James -- Aug. 1708
Watherston, James -- Aug. 1861
Watherston, William Aug. 1861
Watkins, Richard -- Nov. 1708
Watson, Ebenezer -- Oct. 1827
Watson, George ---- July 1791
Watson, George ---- Nov. 1809
Watson, James------ Oct. 1779
Waugh, James, jun.-- June 1748
Watson, John ------ Aug. 1703
Watson, John ------ Sept. 1732
Watson, John ------ Nov. 1790
Waugh, John ------ Dec. 1805
Watson, John ------ Aug. 1847
Watson, John, jun. -- May 1816
Watson, Robert ---- Feb. 1694
Watson, Robert ---- Jan. 1715
Weddell, James ---- July 1797
Weir, John -------- July 1691
Weir, John -------- Jan. 1762
Weir, John -------- Oct. 1847
Weir, John, jun.---- Oct. 1718
Welsh, John ------ Aug. 1720
Wemyss, David ---- Sept. 1701
Wemyss, David ---- Sept. 1815
Wemyss, George ---- June 1742

List of Members

White, Adam ..... Dec. 1790
White, George..... Oct. 1788
White, James ..... Mar. 1819
White, John..... Oct. 1786
White, John..... Oct. 1788
White, John..... Sept. 1794
White, John Aitken Mar. 1859
Whitehead, William .. June 1824
Wight, Alexander .. Dec. 1823
Williamson, Duncan Nov. 1693
Williamson, George.. Dec. 1817
Williamson, James .. Oct. 1793
Williamson, James .. Dec. 1804
Williamson, J., jun... Nov. 1818
Williamson, Robert.. Jan. 1749
Williamson, Thomas June 1798
Williamsone, John .. May 1688
Wilkie, James ..... Dec. 1755
Wilkie, John ..... Feb. 1697
Willison, David .... Dec. 1790
Willison, Robert .... April 1698
Wingate, Patrick.... Aug. 1710
Wingrave, Matthew Dec. 1826
Wilson, Alexander .. Aug. 1684
Wilson, Andrew .... April 1775
Wilson, Andrew .... Dec. 1802
Wilson, James ..... May 1688
Wilson, James ..... Sept. 1705
Wilson, James ..... Mar. 1826
Wilson, John ..... Jan. 1726
Wilson, John ..... Sept. 1816
Wilson, Robert .... Nov. 1691
Wilson, Robert .... Feb. 1753
Wilson, Robert .... Nov. 1825
Wilson, William .... Jan. 1687
Wilson, William .... Jan. 1704
Wishart, James .... April 1825
Wishart, John Kay .. May 1858
Work, Peter ..... Aug. 1854
Wood, Andrew .... July 1813
Wood, Christopher .. Dec. 1806
Wood, James ..... Nov. 1697
Wood, James ..... Mar. 1730
Wood, John..... April 1828
Wood, Peter..... Nov. 1790
Wood, Walter ..... Sept. 1794
Wright, Alexander .. Feb. 1682
Wright, Alexander .. July 1705
Wright, Alexander .. Nov. 1823
Wright, Alexander B. May 1844
Wright, Charles Wm. June 1862
Wright, George .... Nov. 1822
Wright, George .... Aug. 1857
Wright, John ..... Aug. 1686
Wright, John ..... June 1749
Wright, John ..... Oct. 1793
Wright, Malcolm.... Oct. 1776
Wright, Robert .... Aug. 1745
Wright, Robert .... June 1823
Wyber, Patrick .... Oct. 1710
Wyld, James ..... Dec. 1811
Wyld, William..... Dec. 1820
Wylie, David ..... Aug. 1730
Wylie, Henry ..... Aug. 1683

Yetts, William..... Dec. 1777
Yool, Robert ..... Aug. 1715
Young, Archibald .. Nov. 1839
Young, James ..... Aug. 1692
Young, James ..... Nov. 1724
Young, James ..... Mar. 1826
Young, James ..... June 1862
Young, John ..... Sept. 1813
Young, John H. .... Aug. 1784
Young, Richard .... June 1802
Young, Robert..... July 1748
Young, Thomas .... June 1717
Young, William .... Nov. 1825
Younger, William .. Aug. 1858
Yule, George ..... July 1803

Number of Members

No. II.—Number of Members annually admitted into the Merchant Company, from 1777 to 1862.

Year of Entry	No. of Members	Year of Entry	No. of Members	Year of Entry	No. of Members
1777	14	1806	14	1835-36	5
1778	0	1807	15	1836-37	6
1779	6	1808	6	1837-38	3
1780	0	1809	9	1838-39	4
1781	0	1810	22	1839-40	8
1782	38	1811	13	1840-41	5
1783	9	1812	13	1841-42	3
1784	7	1813	16	1842-43	4
1785	4	1814	40	1843-44	16
1786	8	1815	17	1844-45	4
1787	10	1816	36	1845-46	6
1788	15	1817	31	1846-47	6
1789	9	1818	29	1747-48	14
1790	59	1819	27	1848-49	10
1791	13	1820	12	1849-50	8
1792	0	1821	3	1850-51	17
1793	18	1822	12	1851-52	8
1794	17	1823	13	1852-53	8
1795	12	1824	16	1853-54	4
1796	22	1825	30	1854-55	4
1797	43	1826	25	1855-56	6
1798	18	1827	4	1856-57	22
1799	12	1828	2	1857-58	35
1800	3	1829	4	1858-59	11
1801	11	1830	5	1859-60	9
1802	9	1831-32*	6	1860-61	11
1803	6	1832-33	4	1861-62 (applications)	28
1804	21	1833-34	7		
1805	10	1834-35	7		

* This year is counted from the first Monday of September 1831 to the first Monday of September 1832; and the subsequent years are counted also from September to September.

No. III.—MASTERS of the Merchant Company elected since 1681.

1681	Bailie George Drummond	1725	Thomas Dundas	Masters
1682	Bailie Thomas Douglas	1726	William Hutton	
1683	Bailie James Nicolson	1727	William Robertson	
1684	David Spence	1728	Robert Blackwood	
1685	Bailie M'Intosh	1729	Hugh Hawthorn	
1686	Bailie Brand	1730	John Osburne	
1687	Robert Blackwood	1731	Thomas Young	
1688	Bailie Murray	1732	John Cochran	
1689	Bailie William Montgomefy	1733	John Forrest	
1690	Bailie Robert Blackwood	1734	Robert Purves	
1691	Treasurer William Menzies	1735	Hugh Hawthorn	
1692	Bailie Hugh Blair	1736	Alexander Sharp	
1693	Bailie Hugh Cuninghame	1737	George Millar	
1694	Bailie George Clark	1738	John Osburne	
1695	Dean of "Gild" M'Lurg	1739	John Forrest	
1696	Patrick Thomson, "present Lord Treasurer of Edinr."	1740	Robert Baillie	
		1741	James Stuart	
1697	Bailie Johnston	1742	Walter Hogg	
1698	Bailie George Warrender	1743	Thomas Fairholm	
1699	Bailie Adam Brown	1744	Thomas Young	
1700	Alexander Baird	1745	Archibald Angus	
1701	Hugh Cunningham	1746	Hugh Hawthorn	
1702	John Hay	1747	John Forrest	
1703	Henry Hawthorn	1748	David Inglis	
1704	Bailie John Duncan	1749	John Dunsmure	
1705	Francis Brodie	1750	Alexander Scott	
1706	Bailie Warrender	1751	James Allan	
1707	Treasurer William Baird	1752	Archibald Wallace	
1708	Bailie George Lind	1753	Walter Hogg	
1709	Bailie John Hay	1754	Archibald Angus	
1710	Bailie Henry Hawthorn	1755	Alexander Scott	
1711	Treasurer William Dundas	1756	John Forrest	
1712	Bailie Thomas Dundas	1757	Archibald Wallace	
1713	Capt. William Robertson	1758	Robert Lithgow	
1714	Bailie John Osburne	1759	James Stewart	
1715	Claud Johnston	1760	John Forrest	
1716	Bailie Archibald Macauley	1761	William Callender	
1717	Bailie John Hay	1762	Alexander Brown	
1718	Treasurer John Forrest	1763	Thomas Hogg	
1719	Bailie John Osburne	1764	Alexander Brown, senior	
1720	Bailie Archibald Macauley	1765	John Forrest	
1721	Bailie Thomas Dundas	1766	Archibald Wallace	
1722	Bailie Hugh Hathorne	1767	John Dalrymple	
1723	Bailie John Osburne	1768	William Callender	

Masters

1769	John Forrest	1816	David Kinnear
1770	John Inglis	1817	William Patison
1771	William Alexander	1818	Sir William Forbes, Bart.
1772	Claud Inglis	1819	William Trotter
1773	Alexander Brown	1820	Walter Brown
1774	John Mossman	1821	Robert Hall
1775	John Dalrymple	1822	John Balfour
1776	Alexander Hunter	1823	John Horner
1777	Alexander Scott	1824	Archibald Anderson
1778	Thomas Elder	1825	Sir James Spittal
1779	James Stodart	1826	Alexander Henderson
1780	James Stirling		James Spittal*
1781	John Fyfe	1827	Charles Baxter
1782	David Milne	1828	Alexander Craig
1783	Alexander Brown	1829	Thomas Allan
1784	Neil M'Vicar	1830	Adam Black, M.P.
1785	Thomas Tod	1831	Robert Scott
1786	Sir William Forbes, Bart.	1832	John Macfie
1787	John Gairdner	1833	Peter Lamond
1788	William Ramsay of Barnton	1834	John Lauder
1789	Alexander Houston	1835	Andrew Millar
1790	Charles Cowan	1836	Archibald Thomson
1791	Robert Young	1837	Robert Thomson
1792	Robert Forrester	1838	James Hill
1793	James Mansfield	1839	William Oliphant
1794	Sir James Stirling, Bart.	1840	James Gifford
1795	Samuel Anderson	1841	Alexander Jamieson
1796	Walter Lothian	1842	Thomas Greig
1797	George Kinnear	1843	James Peter Mitchell
1798	William Fettes	1844	Robert Grieve
1799	John Hay	1845	James M'Laren
1800	Andrew Bonar	1846	William Whitehead
1801	Alexander Wallace	1847	John Stark
1802	Sir William Forbes, Bart.	1848	Thomas Sibbald
1803	George Kinnear	1849	James Blackadder
1804	William Ramsay, jun.	1850	James Gall
1805	Robert Scott Moncrieff	1851	James Wilson
1806	Alexander Allan	1852	Charles Macgibbon
1807	Archibald M'Kinlay	1853	George Eliza Russell
1808	Alexander Bonar	1854	Robert Walker
1809	James Carfrae	1855	James Craig
1810	William Creech	1856	Charles Lawson, sen.
1811	Samuel Anderson	1857	James Richardson
1812	Andrew Bonar	1858	Robert Chambers
1813	George White	1859	Charles Cowan
1814	Sir John Hay, Bart.	1860	George Lorimer
1815	William Ramsay	1861	Charles Lawson, sen.

* Elected 5th March 1827, in room of Mr Henderson, deceased.

No. V.—Treasurers of the Merchant Company since 1681.

For many years past, the Treasurer has remained in office for more than one year.

Treasurers

1681	Thomas Young
1682	Robert Blackwood
1683	Thomas Fisher
1684	Baillie W. Montgomery
1685	William Menzies
1686	Robert Blackwood
1687	Colin Lauder
1688	Hugh Cunningham
1689	Patrick Johnston
1690	George Warrender
1691	Walter Cheisle
1692	William Blackwood
1693	John Duncan
1694	John Hay
1695	David Forrest
1696	Robert Tod and W. Lamb
1697	Robert Hunter
1698	Francis Brodie
1699	James Blackwood
1701	Charles Gray
1702	John Tait
1703	John Weir
1704	John Osburne.
1705	William Robertsone
1706	John Seivwright
1707	Andrew Dunnet
1708	Captain Thomas Dundass
1709	Andrew Thomson
1710	James Galloway
	Robert Goldie
1711	Alexander Lawson
1712	Patrick M'Donall
1713	Francis Neutoun
1714	Robert Todd
1715	Robert Marshall
1716	William Cumming
1717	John Parkhill
1718	Charles Stewart
1719	William Hutton
1721	John Parkhill
1724	Thomas Young
1727	David Russell
1728	Thomas Young
1730	William Tod
1733	Thomas Newton
1735	Walter Hog
1738	William Gellatly
1741	James Allan
1744	Alexander Scott
1747	Robert Lithgow
1750	James Napier
1751	Allan Beg
1754	George Dunsmuir
1757	William Bailie
1761	Claud Inglis
1764	William Galloway
1766	Robert Russell
1769	William Burn
1775	William Smith
1778	Alex. Brown, jun.
1781	John Lothian
1784	Malcolm Wright
1787	David Bridges
1790	Walter Lothian
1793	Thomas Hutchison
1796	Alexander Wallace
1799	George White
1802	George Brunton
1805	Robert Kerr
1808	Adam Freer
1811	Robert Plenderleath
1814	William Phin
1817	Thomas Blackwood
1820	William Calder
1823	William Braidwood, jun.
1826	Peter Lamond
1829	Andrew Scott
1831	James Gifford
1833	William Renton
1835	Alexander Jamieson
1838	William Whitehead
1841	James Ritchie
1844	Thomas Sibbald
1847	James Wilson
1850	Robert Walker
1853	George Ritchie
1856	James Richardson
1857	Robert Chambers
1858	John Moinet
1861	John Menzies

No. V.—Copy of CHARTER by George III., dated 1777.

Royal Charter 1777

GEORGE, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Whereas, His Majesty King Charles the Second was graciously pleased, by Charter and Letters Patent under the Great Seal of that part of Great Britain called Scotland, dated the nineteenth day of October Sixteen hundred and eighty-one, to erect and incorporate the whole then present Merchants, Burgesses, and Guild Brethren of the City of Edinburgh, who were importers or sellers of cloth stuff or other merchandise for the apparel or wear of the bodies of Men or Women, for themselves and their successors in the said trade in all time coming, into a Society and Company to be designed and called The Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh, which Charter is in the words and terms following:—

[Here follows verbatim copy of first Charter by Charles II., which is printed in full at page 8.]

And whereas the said Merchant Company of the said City of Edinburgh have, by their humble Petition to us, represented that by their Charter above recited, the fees for admission and entry of Burgesses and Guild Brethren are ascertained to be Six Pounds Scots money (or ten shillings sterling), for each Member, with the sum of Six Shillings Scots (or Sixpence sterling) quarterly thereafter, so long as they exercise their Trade, and power is given to the Master and Assistants to exact and uplift the said entry fees and quarterly payments, and to exact and uplift from every apprentice entering to be an apprentice to any Member of the said Society, Three Pounds Scots at his said entry, which sums are by the said Charter directed to be paid into the common Treasurer

Royal Charter 1777

Treasurer or Master of the common box of the said Company, and to be managed and disbursed by the said Master and Assistants for the good and utility of the said Company, and for the relief and supply of such of their Members as might happen to fail and decay, and of their indigent Widows and Orphans: and the said Petition states that the said Merchant Company of the City of Edinburgh being thus erected into a Society, consisting of Merchants in different circumstances in life, and liable to the accidents and misfortunes attending the Mercantile Business, it was easy to foresee that some of their Members might soon fall into poverty and become objects of charity: Therefore, in order to provide for that event, the Company raised considerable sums of money by voluntary donations and contributions, and that from these contributions, with the aid of other charitable disposed persons, two Hospitals were founded in the City, one for Girls, the other for Boys, whereby suitable provision was made for the youth of both sexes belonging to the Company: That the Company, at the same time that they provided for their youth, did not neglect their indigent and aged, having made provision for them also, according to their ability: But as the Company is now become numerous, and the numbers of their poor are also greatly increased, especially of late years, the Company's small Income is not now sufficient to answer the urgent necessities of their aged and indigent Members, and of their Widows and Orphans: That the Company, and the Master and Assistants, having taken these particulars under their consideration, came to a resolution that a voluntary Contribution should be made among themselves, and that the fees of entry and admission of Members should be augmented, but that this last could not be effectuated without Our Royal permission and authority: The Petition therefore prays, that in addition to their present Charter, We would be most graciously pleased, by Our Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Scotland, to authorise and empower the Master and Assistants of the said Merchant Company of the City of Edinburgh, in all time coming, to demand and levy from each person at his entry into the Company, Six Pounds sterling money of Great Britain,

Royal Charter 1777

Britain, as the fees of his admission, and Six shillings like money annually thereafter, in place of the Entry-money and Quarterly fees payable to the Company by the Charter above recited, as the said Petition in itself more fully bears: And We having taken the said Petition and request into our Royal consideration, and being satisfied that the same is reasonable and proper: Know ye therefore that We, from our princely propensity to encourage and promote the charitable purposes intended by the said Merchant Company, and to render their funds more adequate thereto, of Our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have constituted, appointed, ordained, and granted, and by these presents for Us, and our Royal heirs and successors, do constitute, appoint, ordain, and grant unto the present Master and Assistants of the said Company, called the Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh, and their successors, that instead of the fees of Entry and admission of Members and Quarterly fees directed to be paid and taken by the original Charter above recited, there shall be levied and demanded in all time coming, subsequent to the date hereof, the fees following, viz., The sum of Six pounds sterling, from each person at his entry into the Company, as the fees of his admission, and Six Shillings sterling annually thereafter, from each Member of the Company, which sum of Six shillings sterling shall be annually paid and levied by and from each Member of the said Merchant Company, as well those who may be admitted into the same, posterior and subsequent to the date of these presents, as the present Members thereof who have been entered and admitted before the date of these Our Letters Patent, which said fees of Entry and admission of Members, and Annual fees above mentioned, hereby directed to be paid and taken in all time coming, shall be levied, paid, managed, and applied in the manner mentioned and appointed by the original Charter above recited: And it is Our Royal will and pleasure that the said Charter above recited, granted by His Majesty King Charles the Second to the said Company of Merchants of the said City of Edinburgh, dated the nineteenth day of October Sixteen hundred and eighty-one, be, and the same is hereby

Royal Charter 1777

hereby ratified, approved, and confirmed in the whole heads, articles, clauses, tenor, and contents thereof, excepting in so far as the same is herein, and by these our Letters Patent, altered: And further, Our will and pleasure is, and We do hereby for Us, Our heirs and successors, grant unto the said Master and Assistants of the said Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh and their successors: That as well these Our Letters Patent, as the original Charter or Letters Patent before recited (so far as the same is not hereby altered), or the Inrolment or Exemplification of the same, shall be and continue in and by all things a good and sufficient Charter and Charters of Incorporation, and firm, valid, and effectual Grant or Grants in the Law of all and singular the franchises, immunities, privileges, liberties, and advantages therein and hereby granted or mentioned, or intended to be granted to them as aforesaid, and shall be so allowed, construed, and adjudged, in all Courts of judicature and other places, of Us, Our heirs and successors, and by all judges, justices, and other officers and ministers of Us, Our heirs and successors, notwithstanding the not fully and perfectly reciting or misreciting of the said original Letters Patent, or of any clause or matter therein or herein contained, and notwithstanding any act, matter, or thing by them, the said Master and Assistants of the Merchant Company aforesaid, done or committed, which might in anywise be adjudged or construed to tend to the forfeiting of the said original Charter, or of these Letters Patent, or of any privileges or immunities therein and herein contained: In witness whereof, We have ordered our Seal, kept in Scotland, in place of the Great Seal of that Kingdom, to be appended hereunto: Given at our Court of St James's, 16th August 1777, and of the 17th year of our Reign.

Superscribed by the sign manual of our Sovereign Lord the King, and Sealed at Edinburgh the 26th day of September 1717 (Signed) Ro. Meikle, Subs.

Written to the Seal and Registered the 26th day of September 1777. (Signed) Thomas Miller, Subt.

No. VI.

No. VI.—An Act for enlarging the Powers of the Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh, 5th April 1798.

Act of Parliament 1798

Whereas His Majesty King Charles the Second was graciously pleased, by Charter and Letters Patent under the Great Seal of that Part of Great Britain called Scotland, dated the Nineteenth day of October One Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty-one, to erect and incorporate the Whole then present Merchants, Burgesses, and Guild Brethren of the City of Edinburgh, who were Importers or Sellers of Cloth, Stuff, or other Merchandize for the Apparel or Wear of the Bodies of Men or Women, for themselves and their Successors in the said Trade in all Time coming, into a Society and Company to be designed and called "The Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh;" by which Charter the said Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh were, amongst other Powers thereby granted, authorised and empowered in Manner therein particularly specified, to nominate and elect Annually a Master with Twelve Assistants, whereof Seven were to be a Quorum, with Treasurer, Clerk, and Officer, from Time to Time, the said Master and Assistants being all actual Merchants exercising the said Trade, and to continue in the Offices aforesaid until the First Monday of September in each Year, and upon the said Day if lawful, and failing thereof the next lawful Day thereafter, of new to nominate and elect in like Manner a Master, Assistants, and Treasurer, in Place of the former, for the year ensuing, and so forth from Year to Year in all Time coming; and the said Clerk and Officer to continue during Pleasure: And whereas the said Company are thereby authorised to levy from all Persons being Burgesses and Guild Brethren of the said City, proposing to enter as Members of the said Society or Company, a certain Sum of Money, being Six Pounds

Act of Parliament 1798

Pounds Scots, at their Entry, with the Sum of Six Shillings Scots Quarterly thereafter; which sums of Money were to be paid to the Common Treasurer of the said Company, and to be managed and disbursed by the Master and Assistants for the Good and Utility of the said Company, and for the Relief and Supply of such of their Members as may happen to fail and decay, and of their indigent Widows and Orphans, the said Master and Assistants being always accountable to the Body of the said Company for their Administration; which Charter and Letters Patent were, by an Act passed by the Parliament of Scotland, on the Fifteenth Day of June One Thousand Six Hundred and Ninety-three, ratified, approved, and confirmed in all Points: And whereas the said Company did thereafter, and from Time to Time, raise considerable Sums of Money by Voluntary Donations and Contributions, from which, and the Aid of other charitably disposed Persons, they established Two Hospitals in the said City, one for the Reception of Girls, the other for Boys, after they have severally attained the Age of Seven Years, whereby suitable Provision was made for the Education and Support of the Youth of both Sexes after that Period of Life: And whereas the Company having become numerous, and the Numbers of their Poor greatly increased, the small Revenue above-mentioned was found to be insufficient to provide for the urgent Necessities of their aged and indigent Members, and of their Widows, and Orphans under Seven Years of Age; His present Majesty was graciously pleased, by His Royal Charter or Letters Patent under the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in Scotland in place of the Great Seal formerly used there, bearing Date the Sixteenth Day of August One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-seven, to authorize and ordain the Master and Assistants of the said Company and their Successors, instead of the Fees of Entry and Quarterly Fees directed to be paid and taken by the Charter first above recited, to exact, levy, and demand in all time coming, the Sum of Six Pounds Sterling from each Person at his Entry into the Company as the Fees of Admission, and Six Shillings Sterling thereafter annually from each Member of the

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the said Company; such Sums to be managed and applied in the manner mentioned and appointed by the original Charter above recited: And whereas from the great Increase of the said City, and of the Persons entering with the said Company and becoming Members thereof, a very large Addition has been made to the Number of Persons entitled to receive Assistance from the Funds of the Society, which these Funds are not able to answer; and the Insufficiency daily increasing, so that the Company must be under the Necessity of diminishing the small Pensions which they have been in the Use to give to their poor or decayed Members, and to their Widows, for a long Time past, whilst the Necessaries of Life have greatly increased in Price, unless the above-mentioned Dues or Fees are still further augmented: And whereas, to render the said Charitable Fund adequate to its Purposes, and effectual for the Relief and Support of the decayed Members, their Widows and Orphans, and for establishing a permanent Fund for these purposes, further Powers are necessary, which cannot be obtained without the Aid of Parliament: May it therefore please Your Majesty, that it may be enacted, and be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That the said Two Charters and Act of the Parliament of Scotland above recited, and all the Regulations, Ordinances and Appointments in all or either of them contained, and all the Proceedings had in consequence thereof, agreeable to the Terms of the said Charters and Act, shall be and are hereby confirmed in so far as the same are not altered by this present Act in the Manner hereinafter mentioned.

II. And be it further enacted, That, from and after the passing of this Act, the said Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh shall and may, by their Masters and Assistants and their Successors in Office, exact, levy, and demand the Sum of Twelve Pounds sterling from each Person at his Entry into the Company as the Fees of his Admission, and Nine Shillings Sterling Annually thereafter from each Member

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ber of the Company; which Sum of Nine Shillings sterling shall be Annually paid and levied by and from each Member of the said Company of Merchants, as well as those who may be admitted into the same subsequent to the passing of this Act, as the present Members thereof who have been entered and admitted previous thereto; which said Fees of Entry, on Admission of Members, and Annual Fees above-mentioned hereby directed to be paid and taken, shall be levied, managed, and applied in the Manner mentioned and appointed by the Charter first above recited, ratified, approved, and confirmed by the above-mentioned Act of the Parliament of Scotland in the Year One Thousand Six Hundred and Ninety-three, and by the Charter granted by His present Majesty of Date the Sixteenth Day of August One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-seven.

III. Provided always, and be it enacted, That such Person or Persons as have according to the Usage and Custom of the said Company paid a Sum certain, as an Equivalent for the Annual Dues or Fees when such Dues or Fees were Six Shillings sterling per Annum, or any other or less sum, shall, after the passing of this Act, be liable in and compelled to pay such Annual Sum only as may be equal to the Difference between the Annual Payments so purchased by such Person or Persons, and the aforesaid Annual Payment of Nine Shillings sterling hereby in future appointed to be levied; any Thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

IV. And whereas it hath been found by Experience that many persons entitled to be admitted into the said Company of Merchants, and coming under the Meaning and Description of the Charter first above recited, have carried on Business for many Years in the said City of Edinburgh, without claiming to be admitted, or entering with the said Company, and have, at an advanced period of Life, claimed Admission, on Payment of the usual Entry Money, whereby they and their Widows and Children become immediately entitled to the whole Rights, Privileges, and Benefits accruing from the Hospitals and Charitable Funds of the said Company, equally with those who have entered early in

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in Life, and on commencing Business and who have annually and regularly contributed to the Fund; which practice is productive of much Injustice, and is unfair and unequal: Be it therefore enacted, That when any Person, coming within the Meaning and Description of the Charters and Act above recited, and entitled to Admission into the said Company of Merchants, shall permit Two complete years to elapse from the Day of commencing Business within the said City, and being thereby entitled to Admission as aforesaid, without claiming to be admitted a Member of the said Company, such Person shall, on becoming a Member of the said Company, pay an additional Rate of One Pound Ten Shillings sterling for each Year subsequent to the aforesaid Two Years, and preceding his Admission into the said Company; and that over and above the aforesaid Sum of Twelve Pounds sterling of Entry Money, and Nine Shillings sterling Annually thereafter, to be paid and levied as aforesaid, at which Persons commencing Business in the City of Edinburgh, or within Two Years thereafter, may claim to be admitted Members of the said Company.

V. And whereas it hath been the Practice of the said Company to admit as Members, and to the Benefits, Rights, and Privileges arising therefrom, Persons who do not exactly fall within the Description of Sellers or Importers of Cloths, Stuffs, or other Merchandize for the Apparel or Wear of the Bodies of Men or Women, but Bankers and others, who are Merchants, Burgesses, and Guild Brethren, or entitled to be chosen Merchant-Councillors or Magistrates of the City of Edinburgh: And whereas the Funds of the said Company have thereby been much benefited, and the charitable Purposes thereby provided for, very materially promoted, and it is therefore expedient that the above-mentioned Practice should, under suitable Regulations, be continued: Be it therefore enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act, it shall and may be lawful for the said Company of Merchants, by their Master and Assistants, and their Successors in Office, to admit all Persons being Merchants, Burgesses, and Guild Brothers, or entitled to be chosen Merchant-Councillors or Magistrates of the City of Edinburgh,

burgh, as Members of the said Company, and to all the Benefits, Privileges, and Immunities thence arising, who voluntarily apply to and desire to be so admitted, each Person paying, in Name of Entry Money and as a Composition for Annual Dues, such Sum, not less than Twenty-five Pounds sterling, as the said Company shall in the Circumstances of each particular Case deem adequate and reasonable. Act of Parliament 1798

VI. Provided always, and be it enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall confer, or be construed to confer any Right or Power to the said Company to compel any Person or Persons whomsoever to enter or become Members of the said Company.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the Charges and Expenses of obtaining this Act shall be paid and defrayed out of the Funds of the said Company.

VIII. And it is hereby further enacted and declared, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act; and all Judges, Justices, and other Persons, are to take Notice thereof as such in all Courts and Places whatsoever, without specially pleading the same.

No. VII.—Analysis of an Act to Amend an Act for enlarging the Powers of the Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh. Passed 28th May 1827.

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I. Preamble narrating and confirming—

(1.) Charter of Incorporation under the Great Seal of Scotland, 1681.

(2.) Act of the Parliament of Scotland, 1693, confirming the Charter.

(3.) Royal Charter or Letters Patent, 16th August 1777, and

(4.) Act of 5th April 1798.

II. Entry-fee fixed at £63, and that whether the Entrants shall belong to the description of persons mentioned in the said original Charter, or to the description of persons mentioned in the before-recited Act of the thirty-eighth year of the reign of his said late Majesty.

III. Fees, payable by persons entering into the Company after having commenced business a certain time, increased.

IV. Widows' Fund to be established, and contributors called "The Contributors to the Widows' Fund of the Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh," and shall have the powers and privileges hereinafter mentioned.

V. Certain portion of Company's stock to be transferred to the Widows' Fund.

VI. Forty-two pounds, out of the said sum of sixty-three pounds of entry-money, to be paid to Widows' Fund.

VII. Contributions to the Widows' Fund and rates to be paid by contributors, Members of the Company, prior to the passing of this Act.

VIII. That every person who shall be admitted a Member of the said

said Company at any time after the passing of this Act, shall pay to the Collector of the said Widows' Fund for the purposes thereof, the sum of ten pounds ten shillings sterling yearly, for and during the space of six years after his admission, and that at two terms in the year.

IX. Contributor dying, leaving a widow, before completing payment of annual rates, deficiency to be retained out of widow's annuity; and if any contributor shall die, leaving no widow, the annual contributions for the said unexpired term shall cease and be no longer exigible.

X. Power given to redeem annual contributions, on payment of £50.

XI. Equalising rate to be paid in case of contributor's age exceeding that of his wife six years. Contributors, Members of the Company, prior to passing of this Act, to pay £1, 10s. for each year of excess above the first five.

XII. Contributors not entered with the Company till after the date of this Act, to pay £2, 10s. for each year of excess above first five. Tax to be payable for second marriages.

XIII. Contributors to lodge note of their own age and of that of their wives. Penalty in the event of any contributor dying before intimating his marriage.

XIV. All contributions to bear legal interest; and penalties not to be modified.

XV. Contributors failing or neglecting to pay contributions for twelve months after same become due, to forfeit £10 per cent. Contributor allowing contributions to fall into arrear for three years, to forfeit all benefit in the Widows' Fund, unless reinstated by general meeting of contributors. Contributor dying, leaving arrears, Widow's annuity to be deferred till these paid up. But power given to trustees to modify and fix term of payment of such arrears.

XVI. The Capital Stock now belonging in property to the said Company of Merchants, which shall remain after payment or transfer to the Trustees of the Widows' Fund, of the sums of money which are appointed to be paid and transferred in manner hereinbefore mentioned, and the sums of money which may be hereafter received by the said Company,

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Company, in name of admission fees, or otherwise, after payment to the Collector of the Widows' Fund, of the sums of money appointed to be paid out of the same, as aforesaid, shall continue and be vested in the said Company, and shall be applicable towards the good and utility of the said Company, and in and towards payment of the allowances or annuities which now are or may be hereafter made or provided to the indigent widows of the Members of the said Company, who may have died before the passing of this Act, and of the allowances or annuities which may be hereafter made or provided to the indigent widows of such of the present Members as may not become contributors to the Widows' Fund established by this Act, and shall also be applicable in and towards payment of the allowances or annuities made and provided, or that may be made and provided, to the present or future Members of the said Company, who now are in, or may hereafter fall into indigent and decayed circumstances, and towards payment of the expenses of management of the said remaining fund, and to any other purposes to which the funds and capital stock of the said Company, with the interest and profits thereon, may be lawfully paid and applied, in terms of the hereinbefore recited Charters and Acts of Parliament, and according to the lawful usages of the said Company: Provided always, that no widow, entitled to the benefit of the Widows' Fund, to be established under the provisions of this Act, shall be entitled to any annuity or allowance out of the said General Fund of the said Company.

XVII. Sums contributed towards Widows' Fund to be vested in trustees; 1st, For payment of expense of management; 2ndly, For provision and payment of annuities to widows.

XVIII. Power to admit Members to benefit of fund, who may have been admitted into the said Company prior to the passing of this Act, but who may have failed to declare his resolution to become a contributor to the said Widows' Fund on or before the first Monday of September 1827.

XIX. There shall be paid out of the said Widows' Fund, to the widow of every Member of the said Company who may have contributed,

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buted to the said Fund, and who at the time of his death may have an interest therein, and be entitled to the benefit thereof for his widow, in terms of the provisions before expressed, a free annuity of twenty-five pounds sterling, and that at two terms in the year, Whitsunday and Martinmas, by equal portions, beginning the first term's payment thereof at the first of these terms after her husband's death, for a proportion of the said annuity corresponding to the time from the death of the husband to the said first term of payment, and the next's term's payment for the half year preceding, at the first term of Whitsunday or Martinmas thereafter, and so forth yearly, termly and proportionally during all the days of her life.

XX. No widow to draw more than one annuity at one time.

XXI. Periodical investigations to be made of state of Widows' Fund. And as to increase of annuities.

XXII. Power to diminish widows' annuities in certain event.

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That in case it shall appear, upon any such investigation as aforesaid, that the said Widows' Fund is inadequate to the provision of the annuities charged, and that may become charged thereon, then, and in that case, it shall and may be lawful to the Members of the said Company, at a general meeting called as aforesaid, at which not less than thiry-two Members shall be present, to appropriate such sum from the General Fund of the Company, in aid of the said Widows' Fund, as three-fourths of the Members present at such general meeting may think fit and reasonable.

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That if at any time it shall be deemed expedient by the said Company of Merchants to make a further provision for their widows or decayed Members, upon the principles before expressed, by additional contributions from such of the then existing Members as may be willing to contribute for these purposes, or either of them, and by increasing the entry-money and the annual contributions to be levied from the persons who may be thereafter admitted Members of the said Company, or by either of these means; and if three-fourths of the Members of the said Company present at a general meeting, specially

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specially called for the purpose, shall be of opinion that it is fit and proper to make such additional provision, then it shall and may be lawful to three-fourths of the Members present at another general meeting, to be called for the purpose, at the distance of not less than two months from the said first meeting, at which last meeting not less than thirty-two Members shall be present; and, upon the report of a person or persons, experienced in the calculation of the value of annuities, to fix and modify the rate of the increased annuity to be allowed to the widows, and the sums of money to be levied from the contributors to the said Widows' Fund, which may be considered adequate to the provision of the said additional annuities to the widows, and the sums of money which it may be thought expedient to levy from the Members of the said Company, for the purpose of increasing the allowances to the Members in decayed or indigent circumstances: provided always, that it shall be optional to the contributors to the Widows' Fund, existing at the time of such resolution, either to pay the additional contributions, and acquire right to the additional annuities for their widows, or to remain on the former footing: provided always, that it shall not be competent to, nor in the power of the said Company, at any time to raise the entry-money and contributions of the persons applying to be admitted Members of the said Company to a greater extent, upon the whole, than double the amount hereinbefore authorized to be exacted.

XXV. Rate of annuity to continue until altered.

XXVI. Annuities not to be assignable nor attachable by creditors, nor subject to the *jus mariti* of any husband whom a widow may afterwards marry, or be liable to his debts or deeds, but the same shall be payable to each widow entitled to the same, upon her own receipt, notwithstanding such arrestment, attachment, or marriage.

XXVII. Contributors being married, may declare the annuity to be in part of the provision otherwise made for their wives.

XXVIII. Trustees to be chosen at a meeting of contributors. Master and Old Master, if contributors, to be Trustees of the said Widows' Fund, who shall be called and denominated "The Trustees of the Widows'

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Widows' Fund of the Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh;" and any three of the said Trustees shall be a quorum.

XXIX. Seniority among Trustees how fixed; Trustees to go out by rotation; one new Trustee to be chosen annually. Trustees going out may be re-elected, after being one year out of office.

XXX. Trustees to hold three stated meeting annually; and besides the above stated meetings, the said Trustees shall hold such occasional meetings as circumstances may require.

XXXI. And be it enacted, That at all meetings of contributors to the said Widows' Fund the Master of the said Company, if a contributor, and in his absence the Old Master, if a contributor, and in the absence of both, the senior Trustee present shall be the Preses of such meeting, and such Preses shall have both a deliberative and a casting vote.

XXXII. Mode in which rights and securities are to be taken to Trustees.

XXXIII. Mode in which moneys belonging to Widows' Fund are to be invested.

XXXIV. Trustees may sue or be sued in person of Collector.

XXXV. A Collector to be appointed.

XXXVI. Collector may be suspended.

XXXVII. Collector to make up a state of the arrears.

XXXVIII. Collector to give security.

XXXIX. Collector's salary or allowance how to be fixed.

XL. Collector to deposit the money in a bank or banking-house to be named by the Trustees.

XLI. Trustees to be liable for intromissions only, and to be reimbursed of all necessary expenses.

XLII. Power to contributors to make rules and regulations.

XLIII. And whereas the said Company of Merchants are by the original Charter, or Letters Patent hereinbefore recited, under which the Company are incorporated, specially empowered to meet annually on the first Monday of September, for the purpose of electing a Master and twelve Assistants, whereof seven are thereby declared to be a quorum,

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quorum, with Treasurer, Clerk, and Officer; but no special power is given to the said Company to supply any vacancy or vacancies which may occur among any of the foresaid office-bearers, by death, resignation or otherwise: And whereas it has been found from experience, that a quorum composed of seven of the said Master and Assistants is inconveniently large for the due despatch of business, be it therefore enacted, That in the event of a vacancy occurring at any time among the said Master and Assistants, or other office-bearers aforesaid, it shall be lawful and competent to the Members of the said Company, and they are hereby required to elect another person to supply such vacancy, either at the next stated meeting of the Company, or at a general meeting of the Company to be called for the purpose, and to be held within one month after the death or resignation of the said Master, Assistant, or other office-bearer aforesaid; and it is further declared, that at all meetings of the Master and Assistants of the said Company, and at all general meetings of the Company requiring a quorum of the Master and Assistants to be present thereat, to be held after the passing of this Act, any five of the said Master and Assistants present at such meetings shall form a quorum; and in the case of all meetings of the said Master and Assistants such quorum shall have full power to discharge all the ordinary business falling under the administration of the said Master and Assistants.

XLIV. Preses of all Meetings, whether of the Company or of the Master and Assistants, to have both a deliberative and a casting vote.

XLV. Company not to compel any person to enter.

XLVI. Expense of Act how to be defrayed.

XLVII. That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a public Act, and shall be judicially taken notice of as such, by all judges, justices, and others, without being specially pleaded.

No. VIII.—Lineage of Sir George Warrender of Lochend, Treasurer of the Merchant Company in 1690.

[*From Burke's Peerage and Baronetage.*]

Lineage of Sir G. Warrender

I. George Warrender, Esq. of Lochend, an eminent Merchant of Edinburgh, having filled the office of Lord-Provost of that city in the reigns of King William, Queen Anne, and King George I., was created a Baronet by the latter monarch, for his zealous loyalty, 2nd June 1715, from which year he represented the Scottish metropolis in Parliament until the period of his decease. Sir George married, 1st, Margaret Lawrie, by whom he had an only son, John, his successor. He married, 2ndly, Grisell, daughter of Hugh Blair, Esq., a Merchant and Magistrate of Edinburgh. Sir George was succeeded by the son of his 1st wife,

II. Sir John, who married, in 1720, Henrietta, daughter of Sir Patrick Johnston. Sir John, dying in 1773, was succeeded by his only surviving son,

III. Sir Patrick, born 7th March 1731; a cavalry officer of rank at the battle of Minden, and M.P. for the burghs of Haddington, Dunbar, &c. Married, in 1780, Miss Blair. Sir Patrick was King's Remembrancer in the Court of Exchequer. He died in 1799, and was succeeded by,

IV. Sir George, born 5th December 1782; married, 1810, Anne, youngest daughter of George-Evelyn, third Viscount Falmouth. Sir George died in 1849, and was succeeded by his brother,

V. Sir John, born in 1786; an officer in the foot guards; married, 1st, Lady Juliana-Jane Maitland, daughter of the Earl of Lauderdale; and, 2ndly, the Hon. Frances-Henrietta Arden, sister of Lord Alvanley.

No. IX.—Report of Conversazione, at which Mr K. Johnston's Lecture was delivered.

[*From the Newspapers of the day.*]

Report of Conversazione, 1862

On Friday the 11th April, the Master of the Merchant Company held a Conversazione in the Hopetoun Rooms, which was attended by about 350 gentlemen, of whom a large proportion were Members of the Company. The entrance-hall was most brilliantly decorated with plants and exotics of rich flowering and verdure, and the rooms were otherwise fitted up in the most tasteful manner. After spending about half-an-hour in conversation, the company assembled in the octagon, where Mr Lawson, the Master, took the chair, and the Lecturer's desk was occupied by Mr A. Keith Johnston, F.R.S.E. Among the auditory we observed the following:—

Lord Ardmillan; Sir W. Dick Cunningham, Sir William Johnston; Professors Christison, Kelland, Macdougall, Laycock, Allman, Balfour, and Archer; Colonel Geddes, C.B.; Colonel Maclean, R.A.; Dr Newbigging, P.R.C.S.; Drs Alex. Wood, Begbie, Andrew Wood, William Brown, Gillespie, Burn Murdoch, Coldstream, James Duncan, Scoresby Jackson, Ormond, Matthews Duncan, Stevenson Macadam, John Struthers, and Sellar; Rev. Drs Smith, Nisbet, Forbes, Hodson; Revs. J. F. Montgomery, W. Smith, D. Henderson, W. H. Gray, William Robertson; Bailies Boyd, Russell, Mossman, Auchie; Councillors Wilson, Hope, Mair, Kay, Menelaws, Ridpath, Pearson, Crighton, Hill, White, Cochrane, Callender, Alexander; Mr Marwick, Town-Clerk; Mr D. Cousin, Mr R. L. Dymock; Mr Brand of Union Bank; Mr Henry Stephens; Messrs Miller of Leithen, Samuel Raleigh, David Smith, R. Christie, jun.; A. K. Morrison, Robert Morham, F. Carter, J. S. Darling, W.S.; David Dickson, W. Forrester, J. Campbell Smith, T. G. Murray, W.S.; J. A. Campbell, John M'Laren, advocate; James Bryson, J. C. Thomson, advocate; George Harvey, R.S.A.; Robert Horn,

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Horn, advocate; George Meldrum, W.S.; Charles Morton, W.S.; John Millar, David Rhind, James Drummond, R.S.A.; Maurice Lothian, Adam Curror, T. B. Johnston, James Hope, D.K.S.; T. Leburn, S.S.C.; James Macandrew; &c.

Mr Lawson said—My Lord Ardmillan and Gentlemen, my duties on this occasion in taking the chair are extremely light. As Master of our old and honourable Company, I have to welcome my fellow Members to the reunion this evening; and I rejoice to see such a large attendance of the Company, and to observe so many, who like myself joined when this century was not half so old as it is at present. I am also not displeased that the limited accommodation of our own Hall in the Old Town gave me an excuse to go elsewhere, and in these rooms afforded me an opportunity of inviting a number of gentlemen distinguished in other communities of the city, whom, on the part of the Company, I thank for the honour of their presence among us this evening. My remaining duty now is the formality of introducing a well-known and much valued Member of the Company, Mr Keith Johnston, who has so kindly undertaken the real business of the evening. The subject of the Lecture, "The Geographical Distribution of Material Wealth," must be interesting to us all, but more especially to us as a trading community. It is also of peculiar interest at the present time when in our own city we have just obtained the commencement of a most valuable Industrial Museum, under the able direction of Professor Archer, and where we expect shortly to see in the metropolis of this kingdom the gathering together under one roof of the finest specimens of all the substances, organic and inorganic, which under the hand of man constitute the wealth of the world. No one can handle a geographical subject better than Mr Johnston, to whom in his valuable Atlases, this country and the civilized world at large, are indebted for the greatest and most complete series of illustrations both of common and physical geography. I would allude specially to the latter branch of science, for I think in Mr Keith Johnston's great *Physical Atlas*, we have often in a single page an amount of information in one of

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of the highest departments of human knowledge which he could not obtain otherwise than by the careful study of many volumes. The large map before me and the small one in our hands are apt illustrations of what I am saying; but I shall not detain you any longer with my remarks, and Mr Johnston will now perhaps favour us by proceeding with the Lecture.

Mr Keith Johnston then delivered his Lecture.

At the close of the Lecture, Lord Ardmillan moved a cordial vote of thanks. He said it was a great honour to Edinburgh to have among its citizens, and to this Company to number among its Members, so distinguished a man of science as Mr Keith Johnston. No subject, he thought, could have been more appropriately chosen for a Lecture to be addressed to a Company that was the representative of Commerce in this community; and no one could have handled the subject more judiciously, attractively, and scientifically, than the gentleman to whom they had just listened with so much pleasure and interest.

Dr Alexander Wood seconded the motion.

Mr Richardson, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, moved a vote of thanks to Mr Lawson for the excellent entertainment he had provided; remarking that that gentleman had been selected to fill different seats of honour in this city, and was truly worthy of any higher honour which his citizens had yet to confer.

Professor Archer seconded the motion.

Mr Lawson then expressed his thanks for the kind manner in which the company had been pleased to receive his endeavour to enable them to pass an agreeable evening.

The company were then invited to partake of refreshment; and between ten and eleven they gradually separated.

Private Press of Peter Lawson & Son, Edinburgh.



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